JOJO'S BIZARRE ADVENTURE – Part 7

7

STEEL BALL RUN

by Hirohiko Araki

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Contents

CHAPTER 49: Tubular, Part 2 3
CHAPTER 50: Tubular, Part 3 65
CHAPTER 51: Steel Balls Breaking: Wrecking Ball, Part 1 129
CHAPTER 52: Steel Balls Breaking: Wrecking Ball, Part 2 191
CHAPTER 53: Steel Balls Breaking: Wrecking Ball, Part 3 237
CHAPTER 54: Steel Balls Breaking: Wrecking Ball, Part 4 285
CHAPTER 55: What It Takes to Be a Winner 347

Author's Comments 387
Credits 390

CHAPTER 49:

Tubular, Part 2

I'M SO SORRY FOR IMPOSING ON YOU LIKE THIS.

I... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY FOR MYSELF...

...I SHOULD JUST GO.

MAYBE....

CALL ME *SCARLET.*

DON'T YOU HAVE THE MOST ADORABLE NOSE?

NONSENSE! HOW ARE YOU FEELING, LUCY? BETTER?

WE'RE FRIENDS NOW. YOU CAN CALL ME SCARLET, CAN'T YOU?

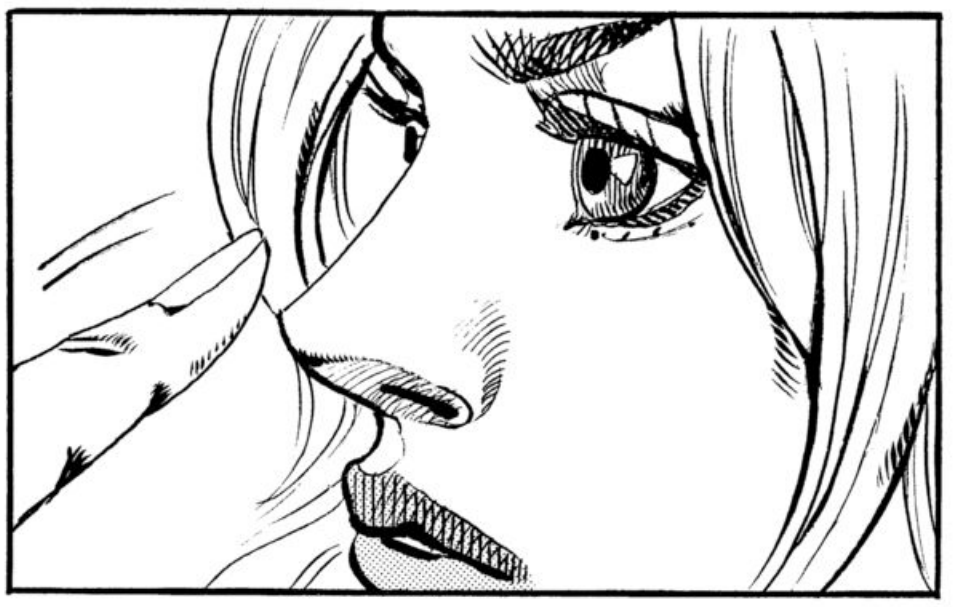
GO ON, CALL ME SCARLET. AND DON'T BE SHY!

PEOPLE ONLY EVER ADDRESS ME AS THE FIRST LADY.

PLEASE, LUCY.

BUT I WANT YOU TO.

SAY IT LIKE I'VE BEEN A BAD GIRL...



BOOP

OH, GOODNESS. I COULD NEVER.

I COULDN'T POSSIBLY PRESUME.

YOU'RE THE FIRST LADY, MRS. VALENTINE.

GO GO GO

BESIDES, IT'S NEARLY TIME FOR HIS AFTERNOON NAP.

BUT YOU ALREADY KNEW THAT, DIDN'T YOU? THAT THE PRESIDENT TAKES A 20-TO-30-MINUTE NAP EVERY AFTERNOON?

HMM, I SUPPOSE SO.

BUT I HONESTLY NEVER NOTICED.

SURELY THAT'S NOT SO!

REALLY?

THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE HEARD OF IT.

NO...

HAVEN'T YOU BEEN TRAVELING ON THE SAME TRAIN AS US?

BY THE WAY, HOW ARE YOU GETTING ON WITH YOUR HUSBAND, LUCY?

I HEAR YOU TWO ARE 35 YEARS APART. HOW DELIGHTFULLY SCANDALOUS. ♡

AND WHY WOULD YOU? WHO CARES ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S SILLY NAPS? ♡

SQUEEZE

MY HUSBAND AND I HAVE NEVER GOTTEN ALONG VERY WELL.

AFTER ALL, I ONLY MARRIED HIM FOR HIS POWER AND MONEY.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

...?

I'M KIDDING! THAT WAS JUST A LITTLE JOKE. ♡

I MET HIM 15 YEARS AGO WHILE I WAS STILL IN SCHOOL. WE WERE FROM THE SAME HOMETOWN.

THEY'RE SILENT TO THIS DAY. I THINK IT'S SEXY.

HIS FOOTSTEPS, DARLING! HE WALKS WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A TAP. DOESN'T MATTER WHAT KIND OF FLOORING.

OR WHAT KIND OF GROUND, FOR THAT MATTER.

WE DANCED TOGETHER AT A PARTY, BUT WOULD YOU GUESS WHAT? HIS FEET NEVER MADE A SOUND.

NO MATTER WHERE HE WALKED, HIS FOOTSTEPS WERE COMPLETELY SILENT. THAT'S WHAT MADE ME FALL FOR HIM.

THEN, TWO YEARS AGO, HE BECAME PRESIDENT.

HE'S QUICK TO MAKE DECISIONS, AND ALWAYS THE RIGHT ONES.

SHREWD AND QUICK-WITTED, BUT WITH SUCH A TENDER HEART.

BUT HE'S ALSO KIND.

THAT'S THE REAL REASON I FELL IN LOVE. FIFTEEN YEARS LATER, HIS CHARMS ARE THE SAME AS EVER.

ON THE DAY OF THE PARTY, HE SUDDENLY STEPPED ONTO A MANDOLIN THAT WAS LYING ON THE FLOOR OF THE DANCE HALL...

...AND HE ACTUALLY STARTED PLAYING IT WITH HIS FEET!

STRUM

STRUM

STRUM

STRUM

THERE HE WAS, A MAN OF HIS WEIGHT, NIMBLY DANCING ACROSS THE STRINGS.

HE PLAYED MOZART. OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT IT SOUNDED LIKE TO ME.

PINCH
PINCH
PINCH
PINCH

LOOK AT YOU, LISTENING SO INTENTLY! YOU'RE AS CUTE AS A BUTTON!

WHY, I COULD JUST PINCH THAT NOSE!

MMMMM!
♡

HOW ABOUT WITH TWO FINGERS?

BLUB BLUB BLUB BLUB

BLUB BLUB BLUB BLUB

CAN I BURBLE YOUR LIPS WITH MY FINGER?

BLUB BLUB BLUB BLUB

OH, YES!! ♡

SCAR-LET!!

THAT'S IT!

AH!

NOW CALL ME SCAR-LET!

OOH, CAN I SMOOSH YOUR CHEEKS TOO?

SMOOSH

SMOOSH

SMOOSH

I REALLY WANT YOU...

...TO SIT ON ME.

LUCY... CAN I ASK YOU A FAVOR?

SWOON

BUT HIS LIPS AREN'T NEARLY AS DELICIOUS AS YOURS, LUCY.

DON'T GET ME WRONG, I LOVE THE PRESIDENT. ♡

BLUB BLUB

BLUB BLUB

YOU'RE ONE OF A KIND. ♡

SQUISH YOU?

I WANT YOU TO SQUISH ME! ♡

YOU'LL DO IT FOR ME, WON'T YOU?

C'MON.

PLEASE ?

...

?

OH, I'M SO EXCITED! HURRY! LET'S HAVE A SQUISH PARTY!

LIKE THIS, SILLY! YOU HAVE TO PUSH DOWN ENOUGH TO SMOTHER ME!

PUSH DOWN ON MY FACE!

EEP! ヤイ!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

I WANT YOU TO CRUSH ME WITH THAT ADORABLE BOTTOM! OH, QUICKLY! CRUSH ME NOW!

YES! SQUISH MY FACE!

HARDER! HARDER!

OH, YES! CLIMB UP RIGHT... THERE...

PUT MORE OF YOUR WEIGHT ON ME, LUCY!!

...

SCARLET ?

ZZZ ZZZ

WSH

ZZZ ZZZ

ZZZ

ZZZ

...

SNOOZE

TICK
TOCK
TICK
TOCK
TICK
TOCK
GLANCE
ZZZ ZZZ
ZZZ ZZZ
MRS. VALENTINE? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
HELLO ...?
WSH
H!!!!

SHE'S OUT LIKE A LIGHT.

SPLSH

SPLSH

THE SLEEPING DRUG I PUT IN HER TEA DID THE TRICK.

AND NOW...

IT'S DO-OR-DIE.

...THERE'S NO TURNING BACK.

I MUST STEAL THE **HEART** FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CHEST.

HUFF HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

IF I GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE PRESIDENT, IT WON'T MATTER THAT I DON'T HAVE A STAND ABILITY. THIS EYE WILL LET ME STEAL THE HEART.

IT'S LIKE GYRO SAID, THE PARTS OF THE CORPSE ARE DRAWN TO EACH OTHER.

THEN ALL I HAVE TO DO IS ESCAPE FROM THIS HOUSE.

I WILL DEFEAT HIM!

WSH

KA-CLIK

THERE ARE SEVERAL MORE STATIONED IN THE GARDEN.

THERE ARE THREE GUARDS TO THE RIGHT OF THE HALLWAY, AND TWO ON THE LEFT. BUT OF COURSE, THOSE ARE ONLY THE ONES I CAN SEE.

CHAK

...

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

WSH

TICK

TOCK

"I'M GOING TO TAKE MY AFTER-NOON NAP."

"COME WAKE ME IN 30 MINUTES."

...

...

GLANCE

チラ

TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
...
SHF
...

GO GO GO GO

THE PRESIDENT! THIS IS HIS ROOM!

THERE HE IS!

OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT. MY HUSBAND'S ROOM IS A WHOLE THREE DOORS DOWN.

BESIDES, IT'S NEARLY TIME FOR HIS AFTERNOON NAP. BUT YOU ALREADY KNEW THAT, DIDN'T YOU?

CLOSE ENOUGH TO SLOWLY POSITION THIS EYEBALL OVER HIS CHEST!

NOW I JUST NEED TO GET CLOSER!

OF COURSE I KNOW ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S NAPS! HE NEVER SKIPS HIS REGULAR AFTERNOON NAP!

FWIP

THAT'S NOT YOU, SCARLET, IS IT?

WHO'S THERE?

!

I SAID SHOW YOURSELF! THIS IS YOUR LAST WARNING!

KREEEEK

KREEEEK

SHOW YOUR-SELF.

WHO ARE YOU?

SWISH

KREEK

KREEK

KREEEEK

KREEEEK

KREEEEK

SHF

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

...

WHAT ARE *YOU* DOING HERE?

YOU KNOW HOW SERIOUSLY I TAKE MY NAPS.

WE AGREED NOT TO BOTHER EACH OTHER IN THE AFTER-NOONS.

...

TMP

TMP

TMP

...

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP TMP

SCARLET ...?

DOOM

LOOK AT THIS SPRAY CAN, LUCY STEEL.

KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE NOZZLE OF MY SPRAY CAN.

TMP TMP TMP TMP

AA AH!

PSSSSSH

SHLUP

SHLUP

FOR ONE TIME ONLY, YOU CAN LOOK LIKE ANYONE YOU WANT.

THAT WILL ONLY WORK ONCE, UNDER-STAND?

A SINGLE-USE DISGUISE, IF YOU WILL.

IT'S ACTIVATED BY TOUCH.

THE ***FLESH SPRAY*** I JUST APPLIED TO YOUR FACE HAS BEEN ABSORBED INTO YOUR SKIN. WHEN YOU'RE READY TO REMOVE THE DISGUISE, SIMPLY PEEL IT OFF WITH YOUR FINGERS.

YOU SEE, I SEARCHED JOHNNY AND GYRO NEAR THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

OF COURSE, IF YOU'D RATHER RUN, I WON'T STOP YOU. BUT I'D THINK LONG AND HARD ABOUT THAT.

THEY WERE MISSING THE CORPSE'S *RIGHT EYE.*

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

ZWM

ZWM

ZWM

THAT'S RIGHT... *YOU* WERE THE INTRUDER! I REALIZED IT QUICKLY ENOUGH. IT WAS SHEER LUCK THAT I FOUND YOU FIRST.

THE PRESIDENT AND HIS MEN WILL FIGURE OUT THAT YOU'RE THEIR TRAITOR.

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

AND WHEN I ARRIVED HERE IN CHICAGO, I HEARD THE GOVERNMENT WAS SEARCHING FOR A *WOMAN...*

...WEIGHING LESS THAN 112 POUNDS.

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WH... WHO ARE YOU?
THEY'LL CATCH YOU, AND SOON.
I ONLY MADE THIS DETOUR BECAUSE HELPING YOU WAS A HIGHER PRIORITY FOR ME THAN THE RACE.
YOU'RE TRYING TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THE PRESIDENT...
...BY USING THE ***EYEBALL*** IN YOUR POCKET. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, LUCY STEEL?
...
TO BE CLEAR, I'M NOT YOUR FRIEND. BUT I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY, EITHER.
I CAN'T TELL YOU THAT.
WHY IS EVERY-ONE AFTER THEM?
WHAT ARE THESE THINGS?
WHOSE CORPSE ARE THEY EVEN FROM?!

I HAVE NO DESIRE TO HURT ANYONE.

MY SOLE OBJECTIVE IS TO COLLECT ALL PARTS OF THE CORPSE THROUGH THIS RACE.

SO LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY, MRS. STEEL.

THE SPRAY I APPLIED TO YOUR FACE CAN ALTER YOUR HAIR AND EYEBROWS, YOUR EYES, AND YOUR VOICE TOO. IT CAN EVEN COPY YOUR TARGET'S SCENT.

ALL I'LL SAY IS THAT I WORK FOR THE ROMAN CURIA— *THE VATICAN.*

WITH THAT DISGUISE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO APPROACH THE PRESIDENT.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF ABILITY HE HAS, BUT REMOVING THE CORPSE'S HEART FROM HIS CHEST SHOULD RENDER HIM POWERLESS.

YOU AND YOUR HUSBAND.

IF YOU DON'T AT LEAST TRY, YOU'LL BE CAUGHT AND ***EXECUTED.***

SO WHAT'LL IT BE, LUCY?

YOU HAVE TO DO IT!

SHF

...JUST BY HOLDING OUT THIS EYE?

CAN... I REALLY DRAW OUT THAT HEART FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CHEST...

STEAL IT JUST LIKE THAT. THEN ESCAPE THE RESIDENCE.

SWSH

ZWOOOM

B-BUT YOU...

WHY DON'T YOU DO IT THEN?!

HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF

EVEN IF I WERE ABLE TO GET INTO THE RESIDENCE UNDETECTED, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN WALK OUT WITH THE CORPSE PART.

AND YOU'LL ONLY HAVE THIS ONE CHANCE. YOU MUST DO IT NOW, WHILE THEY'VE YET TO SUSPECT YOU.

THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.

MY SPRAY CAN'T DISSOLVE THE CORPSE PARTS INTO MINCEMEAT LIKE IT CAN OTHER FLESH.

IT'S UP TO YOU, MRS. STEEL!

HARDEN YOUR RESOLVE.

ISN'T THAT WHY GYRO ENTRUSTED YOU WITH THE EYE?

HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF

TMP TMP TMP TMP

I SAID STOP, SCARLET!

STOP RIGHT THERE!

TMP

TMP

STOP! SOME-THING'S NOT RIGHT.

...

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE VENTURED INTO MY BEDROOM.

WHY IS THAT?

AND YOU'RE UNUSUALLY SILENT.

WHAT'S WRONG? WHY AREN'T YOU SAYING ANYTHING, SCARLET?

...

FEEZ

SQWEK

AROO...

SQWEK SQWEK

AROO...

TWITCH

ARF

AROO...

AROO...

!!

?!

AROO OOO!

WOMMMMM

ARRRRR...

SHH

AROO...

SNIF SNIF

SNIF SNIF

SNIF SNIF

SNIF SNIF

WHAT ...?

WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS ?!

SNIF SNIF SNIF SNIF

ARF

SNIF SNIF

AROO...

ARE... SNIF SNIF

ARF

SNIF! SNIF! SNIF!

BUT *TUBULAR* HAS MEMORIZED THE CULPRIT'S *SCENT*. IT WILL AUTOMATICALLY TRACK THEM DOWN!

GO...

GO...

MY SCENT?!

WHAT?

GO...

GO...

GO...

GO...

GO...

GO...

THEY'RE CALLED *TUBULAR*.

THEY'RE A STATE-OF-THE-ART *DEFENSE WEAPON*. NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF, I ASSURE YOU.

THE TRUTH IS, WE HAD A BREAK-IN

...

OH, I SUPPOSE THAT'S RIGHT.

I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU ABOUT THEM, HAVE I...?

W-WHAT ARE THESE THINGS?!

ARF...

AROO...

I'M SCARED!

THEY'RE MAKING SUCH HORRIBLE HOWLING NOISES...

THEY'RE FRIGHTENING ME!

AROOO...!

AND WHY WON'T YOU ANSWER ME?!

WHAT'S WRONG? WHY HAVE YOU ENTERED MY BEDROOM?

WHY WON'T YOU SPEAK?!

ARF...!

AROO...

IS THIS A STAND?!

NO... NO, I'M NOT SURE WHY, BUT I DON'T THINK IT IS.

AND AS THE FIRST LADY, AM I SUPPOSED TO EVEN KNOW ABOUT STANDS? DOES SCARLET KNOW THAT HER HUSBAND IS A STAND USER?

IS THIS THE PRESIDENT'S STAND?!

MORE IMPORTANTLY, DOES SHE KNOW ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S SEARCH FOR THE INTRUDER IN KANSAS CITY? NO, SHE COULDN'T KNOW... IF SHE DID, SHE WOULDN'T HAVE INVITED ME INTO THE BUILDING.

WSSSH

?

WHERE DID THEY GET MY SCENT?! THIS IS BAD... REALLY BAD!

GO

SNIF

DON'T BE AFRAID!

YOU COULD GIVE THEM A GOOD KICK RIGHT NOW AND STILL BE PERFECTLY SAFE.

I PROMISE THEY WON'T ATTACK YOU.

SWOOSH

TWITCH

WHO ELSE'S SCENT COULD IT BE?

THEY HAVE MY SCENT...? W-WHAT IS HE SAYING?

THIS ISN'T HAPPENING!

N-NO... IT CAN'T BE MINE!

!!

WSH

WOOOOM

I'M GOING TO PUT A SEDATIVE BENEATH THE NAIL OF YOUR INDEX FINGER.

ONE MORE THING, MRS. STEEL.

THE SEDA-TIVE!

I JUST WANTED TO DO IT SO BADLY!

I CAN'T HELP IT!

I CAME TO BURBLE YOUR LIPS!

!?

SCARLET ?!

AND BECAUSE THE EFFECT ONLY LASTS A SHORT TIME, THEY WON'T EVEN REALIZE THAT THEY WERE SLEEPING.

...YOU CAN CAUSE ANYONE WHO DRINKS IT TO FALL ASLEEP FOR *TWO MINUTES.*

BY SIMPLY DIPPING YOUR FINGER IN A CUP OF TEA...

PSSSSH

IF YOU STEAL THE HEART AND ESCAPE WITHIN THAT TIME, NO ONE WILL KNOW YOU WERE THE INTRUDER, AND THE PRESIDENT MIGHT NOT EVEN NOTICE THE HEART WAS TAKEN FROM HIM RIGHT AWAY.

ドドド

ZWMMMM

IT'S WORK-ING.

TH-THERE IT IS...

THAT'S THE HEART... AT LAST...

BLUB

BLUB

BLUB

AH! AAH!

AUGH!

SQWEK

AAAAAGH!

CHOMP

W-WHAT IS THIS?! DID THAT THING BITE ME?!

IT'S STRETCHING OUT LIKE RUBBER... AAH! IT'S TEARING THROUGH MY SKIN!

BLUB

IT'S DIGGING INTO MY FLESH!!

SQWEK

SQWEK

I CAN FEEL IT INSIDE ME! IT'S CLIMBING UP MY LEG!!

BLUB

BLUB

BLUB

BLUB

GWOOSH-

STRETCH

AAA AGH!

AAH !!

SHRIP

STRETCH

OH!

SHFL-

ズバッ!!!

ズバッ!

SHFL

SHFL

ズバッ!!

THAT'S THREE PARTS!

THERE'S MORE BEING PULLED OUT FROM HIM. AN ARM...AND THE EARS!

HE DOESN'T JUST HAVE THE HEART!

WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?

DOOM

STREEEETCH

GRIP

I...

I CAN'T PULL IT OUT! IT JUST KEEPS STRETCHING AND DIGGING DEEPER INTO ME!!

I CAN'T STOP IT!

AAAA AAAA AAAA AGH!

SQWELCH

GYRO NEVER SAID ANYTHING ABOUT THIS... AND NEITHER DID HOT PANTS. THE PRESIDENT HAS THREE PARTS OF THE CORPSE!

BUT I ONLY CAME HERE FOR THE HEART, DIDN'T I?

NO... IF HE HAS THREE PARTS, THEY MUST NEED ME TO TAKE THEM ALL!

AAAAA
AAAH!

WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
URGH!
WOOOOSH
LUCY? WHY ARE YOU...
WHAT'S ALL THAT NOISE?
...IN MY HUSBAND'S BEDROOM?
WHAT'S GOING ON...?
KA-CHAK
THERE'S TWO MORE!
DOOM
NGH...
WHRL
TMP

W...WHAT IS SHE DOING HERE?!

THIS CAN'T BE HAPPEN-ING...

NOT NOW...!

IT CAN'T BE!

ドドド

ドド

AAAH!

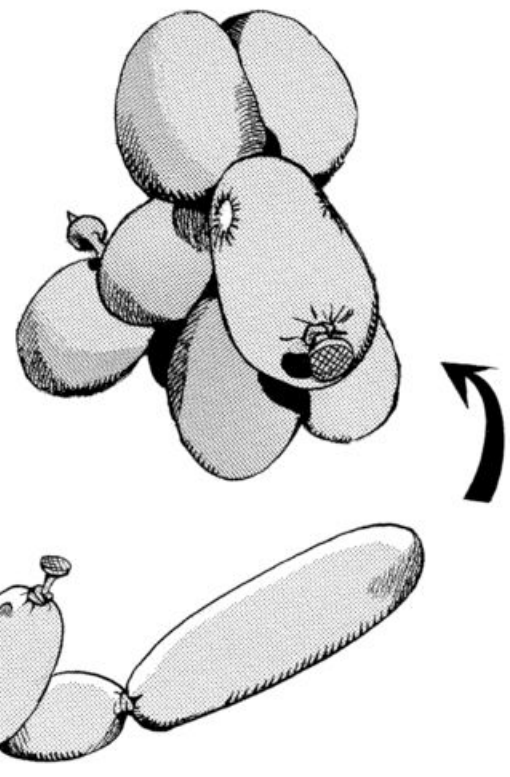
AH...

AROOOO

ドドド

Mike O

Balloon Dog



Stand: Tubular

Mike O can blow up metal objects and inflate them like balloons. If he makes them into the shape of a balloon dog, they will track down a target's scent without rest. They can also dig into a target's body to kill them from the inside.

CHAPTER 50:

Tubular, Part 3

LUCY?

IS THAT YOU, LUCY...?

YOUR FACE...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HERE? YOUR FACE LOOKS... POSITIVELY TERRIFIED!

HUFF HUFF HUFF

AHH...!

ARF ARF!

AROOO...

AROOO...

WSSSSH

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

OH, YOU POOR DEAR... I CAN SEE IT IN YOUR EYES.

I NEVER WANTED ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS CORPSE OR THE PRESIDENT. I ONLY WANTED MY LIFE TO GO BACK TO NORMAL. THAT'S ALL I EVER WANTED.

THIS...THIS IS IT. SHE CAUGHT ME RED-HANDED, AND NOW MY HUSBAND AND I ARE GOING TO BE HELD RESPONSIBLE.

HUFF HUFF HUFF

WELL, THAT'S WHAT YOU GET, YOU SKEEZY LITTLE TRAMP! I'M GOING TO BLOW A HOLE RIGHT THROUGH THAT PATHETIC LOOK ON YOUR FACE!

KA-CHAK

チャッ

BANG

SNIF SNIF!

SNIF!

SNIF!

AAAA AAAAA AAAH!

MNN...

NGH...

KA-CLIK

AND HERE I WAS STARTING TO FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU.

I COULD HAVE TAKEN CARE OF YOU FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE AFTER, BUT YOU'RE A STAND USER!

ADMIT IT! YOU USED ME TO GET INSIDE!

POP

ドン!

ド

DO

THE HELL ...?

THOSE SHOTS CAME FROM THE PRESIDENT'S BEDROOM!

ドドド

STAY DOWN, YOU FILTHY SLUT! DON'T YOU DARE GET UP!

BANG

TMP

YOU SLUU UUUU UUT!!

WHAAAAM

AUGH !!

SKSSH

GAH!

FWSH

FWM

WOOOOOMA

FWM

FWM

FWM

SHLUFF

SHLUFF

SQWSH

SQWSH

...

WHAAAM

GWOM

GWOM

THAT THEY'LL HUNT DOWN THE INTRUDER'S SCENT WITHOUT REST!

SHLUFF

SHLUFF SHLUFF

THE PRESIDENT SAID THOSE THINGS ARE AUTOMATIC TRACKERS.

SQWEEZ

SHLUFF SHLUFF SHLUFF

GRAP

ガシ!

AND THEY WON'T STOP UNTIL THEY BURST!

GWUFF GWUFF

KREEEK

GAH! IT'S NO USE! THESE RUBBER DOGS ARE COMING FOR ME!

THEY'RE GOING TO TRACK ME DOWN AND BITE ME AND POP UNDER MY SKIN!

AIIE EEE EEE EEE !!

SKWETCH

AAGH!

I'M GOING TO PUSH YOU TO THE BRINK OF DEATH, AND THEN, JUST WHEN YOU'RE ABOUT TO BREAK, I'LL TAKE *EVERYTHING* I WANT FROM YOU!

OH, NO. NOTHING SO EASY FOR YOU.

I WON'T LET YOU OFF WITH JUST A SIMPLE EXECUTION. EITHER.

I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU LIE TO ME!

YOU THINK YOU CAN PLAY ME, LUCY?

WSSH

KWSH

GWSH

KWETCH

SKWETCH

AAAA

AAAA

AAH!!

ドドドドドド

MR. PRESI-DENT!

MR. PRESI-DENT!

NGH.

...

WHAM

GWOOM

YOU SEE THOSE BALLOON DOGS?!

AND I'LL START BY TAKING THESE LOVELY LEGS!

WOM

WOM

DO

DO

DO

I'M GOING TO FEED YOU TO THEM FROM THE PALM OF MY HAND!

SQWSH

OB

GWOM

SNIF

SNIF

WOBBL

AAAA AAAAAH!

GRRR!

SCKRIIP

SPLATT

SNIF

THEY HAVE MY SCENT, BUT...

...WHAT IF THERE WERE A CLOSER TARGET?

VWOOOOM

AA AA AH!

WHM

WHM

SNIF

SNIF

CHOMP

AIIEE EEE!

SHWUFF

SHWUFF

EEP!

GWOM

GWOM

POP

SHUUUK

Y... YOU... DAMN ...

LU... CY...

AAAA AAH!

FWUMP

AAAAAA AAAAH!

I HAD TO DO IT... OR SHE WOULD HAVE KILLED ME!

THIS IS A NIGHTMARE! BUT I HAD TO KILL THE FIRST LADY... I DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE!

AAAA AAH!

MR. PRESI-DENT, WE HEARD GUN-SHOTS!

YOU'RE INTERRUPT-ING MY AFTERNOON NAP.

THEY CAME FROM THIS ROOM!

WHY ARE YOU MAKING SUCH A RACKET?

WHAT'S GOING ON?

?

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ?!

MR. PRESI-DENT!

PRESI-DENT VALEN-TINE!

ドドド

DO
ドドド

DO
ドドド

AAAA
AAAA
AH...!

DO
ドドド

AAA
AH!

WSH

TUG
ゲゲゲ

TUG
ゲゲゲ

...

...

SHUFF

SHUFF

SHUFF

HOT PANTS, ONE OF THE RACE PARTICI-PANTS.

WELL, WOULD YA LOOK AT THAT.

OF ALL THE BATHROOMS IN ALL THE WORLDS...

...IT'S YOU.

LUCY...

THE *HEART*...

WHERE IS IT?

WERE YOU ABLE TO RETRIEVE IT?

...

HUFF HUFF

HUFF HUFF

HUFF HUFF HUFF

GLANCE

...

...AND I HAVE ALL OF THEM!

IT'S IN MY BAG, BUT...

...THE HEART WASN'T THE ONLY PART.

THAT'S THREE WHOLE PARTS OF THE CORPSE...

HE ALSO HAD THE *RIGHT ARM* AND THE *EARS.*

DOOM

WHAT ...?

...

IMPOSSIBLE!

THIS SENSATION...

IT FEELS AS IF...

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF HUFF
MEN, WOMEN, AND IN SOME CASES... EVEN *NUNS*.
THERE ARE A GREAT MANY PEOPLE WHO WOULD GLADLY GIVE THEIR LIVES FOR THAT CORPSE WITHOUT EXPECTING A SINGLE THING IN RETURN.
THAT'S UNEXPECTED.
THREE PARTS, YOU SAY?
IT CAN'T BE!
NO!
THEN THE PLAN IS SIMPLE.
AFTER I'VE DISPATCHED HIM, WE'LL MAKE OUR ESCAPE.
WHM
THIS WILL ALL BE OVER SOON. THAT MAN AT THE WINDOW IS THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS SEEN YOU, CORRECT?

PWOOFFF

PWUFF

PWUFFF

PWUF

PWUF

PWUF

PWUF

PWUF

PWUF

WSS

SSH

SHOOP

SHOOP

SHOOP

SHOOP

SHOOP

SHOOP

SHOOP

NO!

ZUUUP

ドドド

WHM

POP

POP

POP

POP

POP

POP

POP

SNAP

KRSSSH

SHUNK

スド

SPSSSSSH

GWSSH

KRUNCH

SLUMP

...

I USED TUBULAR ON THE WINDOW SHUTTERS. THE *METAL* WINDOW SHUTTERS.

THEY'RE SEEING THE WORLD THROUGH THE EYES OF FLYING BALLOON BIRDS NOW.

I'LL FLOAT EVERY LAST PIECE OF METAL IN THIS JOINT.

...I'M GOING TO END YOUR WORLD BY GUILLOTINE EXECUTION!

WITH *TUBULAR* AS MY SHIELD...

FWOOOM

AND MY WORLD WILL HAVE NO FORGIVENESS FOR YOU. I WILL CAPTURE YOU AND TORTURE YOU WITH PAINSTAKING SLOWNESS. YOU WILL BECOME AN EXAMPLE TO YOUR COUNTRY AND ITS ALLIES SO THAT NONE WILL EVER DARE TO OPPOSE US AGAIN.

HOW DARE YOU SET FOOT ON THIS PROPERTY.

I'M THE PRESIDENT'S BODYGUARD, WHICH MEANS THAT IN MY WORLD? YOU'VE JUST THROWN MUD IN MY FACE.

YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO LIQUEFY YOUR BODY, DON'T YOU, HOT PANTS?

WOBBL

WOBBL

FROOM

DON'T MOVE.

STAY BACK WHERE YOU ARE.

AAA AH!

HUFF HUFF

IS THERE SOMEONE ELSE THERE, BEHIND THAT WALL...?

IS THERE ANOTHER INTRUDER ?!

WSH

WHAM

リュン

POP

POP

POP

POP

WHOOM

SHURK

WHAM

SHRAK

KRUMBL

KRUMBL

KRUMBL

KRUMBL

KRSSH

...

KOFF!

UNGH...

?

A... AND...

THAT WOMAN!

LUCY STEEL...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

YOU...

THE DEAD BODY... IS THAT...?

WHAT HAPPENED HERE?!

I DON'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M SEEING!

HOT PANTS!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO THE FIRST LADY?!

SOME-ONE'S IN THERE! MIKE O IS JUST OUTSIDE !!

KA-CHAK

KA-CHAK

KA-CHAK

THEY'RE IN THE BATH-ROOM!

BREAK DOWN THE DOOR!

...

NGH!!

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

OUH...
GAH!

VWOOM

FORGET ABOUT TORTURE!

YOU ARE HEREBY SENTENCED TO IMMEDIATE EXECUTION!

URK!
ACK!
?!
BORBL
BOREL
WHAT IN THE ...?!
WHAT?! NURGH !!
FWOOO
BOREL
!?
HUH?

THOSE PIECES OF MY LEFT HAND THAT SPLATTERED ALL OVER YOU?

I TURNED THEM INTO MY SPRAY.

YOU SEE, I COMPLETED MY ATTACK AGAINST YOU A MOMENT AGO.

DON'T FIGHT IT.

THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR YOU BUT TO FADE PEACEFULLY INTO UNCONSCIOUS-NESS.

IF YOU TRY TO BLOW ANY MORE AIR INTO YOUR BALLOONS, YOU'LL ONLY BE INFLATING YOURSELF.

IT'S OVER. DON'T FILL YOUR DEATH WITH NEEDLESS SUFFERING. GO IN PEACE.

URK!

BURBL

BURBL

NGH!

YOU WERE WRONG. IT WASN'T *MUD* THAT I THREW IN YOUR FACE.

IT WAS MY *FLESH SPRAY.* I ASSIMILATED THE PIECES OF MY HAND INTO YOUR BODY. THEY'VE NOW SPREAD TO YOUR THROAT AND THE BOTTOM OF YOUR LUNGS.

...

A... ACK!!

URK!

NNG!

POP

KA-UFF ...!

BWOOOOOO UH!!

WHAM

ドオオー

ドドド

ドドド

ドドド

ドドド

ドドド

WE NEED A DOCTOR!

GET A DOCTOR IN HERE NOW!

IT'S THE FIRST LADY!

I WASN'T HURT.

I'M FINE.

I'M ALL RIGHT.

I WASN'T HURT AT ALL...

FSSSSH

WITH EVERY-THING THAT'S HAPPENED... I'M AFRAID I CAN'T GET YOU OUT OF HERE.

I'M SORRY, LUCY.

IF I TRIED TO SQUEEZE YOU THROUGH THIS DRAIN WITH MY SPRAY, IT WOULD MOST LIKELY KILL YOU.

SHLUFF

SHLUFF

YOU ONLY HAVE TO PRETEND UNTIL THE RACE IS DONE... UNTIL ALL THE PARTS OF THE CORPSE HAVE BEEN FOUND. IT'S JUST A LITTLE LONGER NOW. YOU'RE ALMOST THERE!

Heart
Both legs, Sixth Stage Finish Line
Lake Michigan
Ears
Chicago
Right arm

I'LL TELL YOUR HUSBAND ABOUT YOU IN SECRET. EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY.

B-BUT... THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DO ALL THAT! YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!

GWSH

GWSH GWSH

LISTEN CAREFULLY. THE ONLY INTRUDER HERE WAS ME. ME, AND ME ALONE! **HOT PANTS** WAS THE CULPRIT!

THAT'S WHAT YOU TELL THEM. NO MATTER WHAT, YOU TELL THEM IT WAS ALL ME.

MAKE THE STORY FIT. (WEIGHS LESS THAN 112 POUNDS. A WOMAN. THE STORM IN KANSAS CITY. CAN RIDE 60 MILES IN A NIGHT.)

AND THEN... YOU **ENDURE.** YOU MUST BECOME THE FIRST LADY.

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY... YOUR ONLY PATH FOR SURVIVAL.

YOU'LL HAVE TO REMAIN DISGUISED AS **SCARLET VALENTINE.** (I'LL DEAL WITH THE ORIGINAL SCARLET'S BODY.)

AS FOR THE CORPSE, I CAN THANKFULLY TAKE THE **EARS** AND THE **HEART,** BUT THE **RIGHT ARM** IS TOO BIG.

I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE IT BEHIND. WHEN I CAME HERE, I COULDN'T BRING THE **LEFT ARM** OR THE **SPINE** WITH ME EITHER.

GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO

GO GO GO GO GO GO

HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF

WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

SCARLET ?

GO GO GO

HUFF

SCARLET ...?

GO GO GO GO

HUFF

GO GO GO

HUFF HUFF HUFF

GO GO GO

I SHOT HER WITH YOUR GUN... SOME BALLOON DOGS PROTECTED ME...BUT SHE ESCAPED THROUGH THAT DRAIN.

SHE WAS IN YOUR BEDROOM.

THE JOCKEY.

IT WAS *HOT PANTS.*

YOU SAVED MY LIFE.

THANK YOU.

HAAH...

AHH... SNIFF...

HUFF HUFF

WHRL

AHH... AHHH...

GO

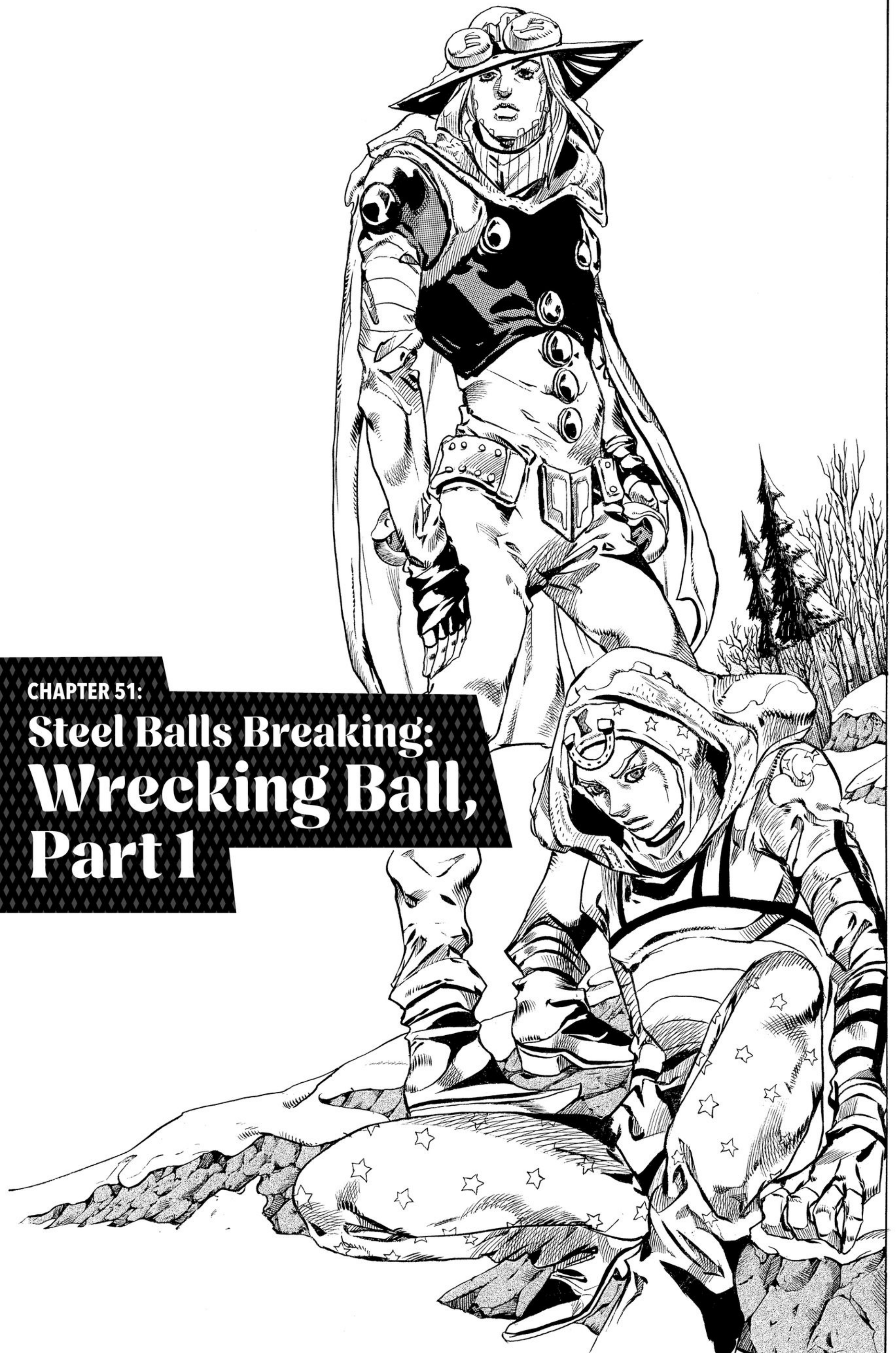
GO

GO

GO

AHH...

FWOOO



CHAPTER 51:

Steel Balls Breaking: Wrecking Ball, Part 1

FWOOOOO

MUMBL

IT'S OVER 30 BELOW.

20
10
0

SKRTCH

SKRTCH

SKRTCH

30
-40

MINUS 30, HM? THAT'S COLD.

HFFF

HFFF

THEN...

THEY WON'T CROSS BY HORSE, HUH...

ACROSS THAT *FROZEN STRAIT*, I MEAN.

COUGH.

THE MAN'S YOUNGER SISTER...

SHE'D ONLY HEARD OF **THE OCEAN** DURING THE SEVENTEEN YEARS OF HER LIFE,

BUT HAD NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE.

THE FIRST TIME SHE'D EVER LEFT HER HOMETOWN TO SEE **THE OCEAN**...

WAS ON HER WEDDING DAY.

HER HUSBAND WAS THE SON OF A WEALTHY FINANCIAL COMMISSIONER.

WHICH MEANT THAT HIS POSITION, WEAELTH, AND STATUS WERE ALL SECURED.

AND, IN FACT, THE ONE THAT PUSHED FOR THIS ENGAGEMENT TO HAPPEN WAS NONE OTHER THAN THE GIRL'S BROTHER, SEVEN YEARS HER ELDER.

HE WAS A SOLDIER IN THE ROYAL GUARD, THE MOST IMPORTANT POST IN THE KINGDOM.

HER BROTHER'S NAME WAS **WEKAPIPO.**

HE HAD BEFRIENDED HIS SISTER'S FIANCÉ THROUGH HIS DUTIES...

THE MARRIAGE HAD BEEN A MISTAKE FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.

...BUT HALF A YEAR LATER, WEKAPIPO DISCOVERED WHAT A GRAVE ERROR HE HAD MADE.

THAT MUCH BECAME CLEAR WHEN WEKAPIPO VISITED HIS SISTER AT HER HOME ONE NIGHT.

OHH...

?

WHAT'S WRONG?

OH...

SISTER? WHY ARE YOU CRYING IN THE DARK?

AH... HIC...

AH...

...

WHERE IS YOUR HUS-BAND?

Y... YOUR...

AH!

AAAH...!

I'M SUPPOSED TO PLEASE HIM...

AS HIS WIFE, IT'S MY JOB TO MAKE HIM LOVE ME.

THIS IS BETWEEN ME AND MY HUSBAND!

DON'T BE ANGRY!

PLEASE! I BEG YOU, BRO-THER!

DAMN THAT WRETCHED BASTARD! WHERE IS HE?!

IT'S NOTHING, REALLY. AND IT WAS MY FAULT. I SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO DISRESPECTFUL.

!

THUMP

YOU HAVE TO UNDER-STAND. HE'S NOT A BAD MAN!

I'M THE ONE WHO MADE HIM ANGRY.

PLEASE. IT'S ALL MY FAULT...

WHEN DID THIS START? HOW MANY TIMES?

HOW MANY TIMES HAS HE DONE THIS TO YOU?

HUH?

...

?

HOW COULD THIS BE...? AAAH...

AAAH ...!

Y... YOUR EYE.

WHY DID YOU KNOCK OVER THAT VASE?

IS IT YOUR LEFT EYE?

DID YOU ...?

NO...

COULD IT BE?

NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, BROTHER!

IT'S ONLY TEMPORARY! JUST A LITTLE THING, HONEST! IT'LL HEAL SOON ENOUGH!

TELL ME IT ISN'T SO! DID HE BLIND YOU IN THAT EYE?!

...AND SOUGHT PERMISSION FROM THE CHURCH AND THE POPE TO HAVE THE MARRIAGE ANNULLED.

THE ONLY SAVING GRACE WAS THAT HIS SISTER HADN'T YET BORNE HER HUSBAND A CHILD.

WITHOUT HESITATION, WEKAPIPO CALLED ON HIS CONNECTIONS...

HE BLAMED HIMSELF, AND SO HE PURSUED THE ANNULMENT KNOWING THAT IT WOULD COST HIM HIS JOB...

HE HAD BEEN THE ONE WHO'D PUSHED HER TO MARRY.

THIS WOULD BE HIS PUNISHMENT FOR UNILATERALLY DECIDING THAT MARRYING INTO A WEALTHY FAMILY WOULD MEAN HAPPINESS FOR HIS SISTER.

HE WOULD ACCEPT ALL THE BLAME.

...AND INCUR THE WRATH OF HIS SISTER'S HUSBAND.

END YOUR MARRIAGE AND LEAVE MY SISTER! IF YOU AREN'T SATISFIED, THEN YOU NEEDN'T STAY WITH HER! IT'S THE ONLY WAY! CAN'T YOU SEE?!

PLEASE!

PLEASE, FORGIVE ME!

I'LL TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY! I SWEAR, I WILL ATONE IN ANY WAY I CAN!

WHAM

WHAM

URGH!

TAP

KUH...

SKSSSH

I HAD TO, OR ELSE SHE COULDN'T PLEASE ME AT ALL. YOUR SISTER WAS A TERRIBLE LAY.

YOU CAN PAY ME WITH YOUR LIFE.

YOU SAY YOU'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY?

FINE.

A DUEL TO THE DEATH.

GHH!

KUH!

NGH!

TRMBL

TRMBL

TRMBL

GUR

GUR

NOW YOU LISTEN HERE.

I'LL TELL YOU A LITTLE SECRET ABOUT YOUR SISTER, WEKAPIPO. I SCREWED THAT GIRL SIX WAYS TO SUNDAY, BUT SHE WAS ONLY GOOD WHEN I BEAT HER.

YOU EVEN WENT TO THE POPE!

DID YOU THINK IT WOULD BE THAT EASY?

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOU'VE DONE?

YOU'VE BROUGHT SHAME TO MY NAME!

WHAT DO YOU THINK MY FATHER AND HIS ASSOCIATES WILL SAY ABOUT ME NOW?

WEKAPIPO!

NO...

SNAP

SNAP

SNAP

SHF

NORTH-WEST OF THE CASTLE WALLS. DON'T BE LATE!

TO-MORROW, AT DAY-BREAK.

YOU'RE STILL YOUNG.

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY.

I'LL BE HOME SOON.

IT'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.

B-BUT...

YOU'LL MARRY AGAIN, AND THIS TIME, YOU'LL FIND THE HAPPINESS YOU DESERVE.

...

SHF

AH...

AH...
AAAH...

ザザザザ

FWOOOO

THEY WILL ENSURE THAT THIS DUEL IS FAIR AND HONEST. THERE WILL BE NO COWARDICE HERE TODAY.

THESE MEN WILL BE MY ATTENDANTS.

AS IS THE PROPER WAY!

WE SHALL DUEL WITH THE *STEEL BALLS* PASSED DOWN TO US BY OUR FOREFATHERS!

YES... AND WHAT WEAPONS SHALL WE USE? SWORDS?

IT'S TIME WE SETTLED THIS.

NO POINT IN DRAGGING THINGS OUT.

SHALL WE GET STARTED, THEN?

OF COURSE NOT! WE WILL USE *STEEL BALLS!*

WSH

WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHAM
PWING
PWING
FWSH
FWSH

DOOM

ドリオ

WOOOSH

ドドドドドドドド

KRAK

SHIK

...YOU LOST THIS BATTLE BEFORE IT EVER BEGAN.

YOUR VICTORY CHANGES NOTHING.

!!

DO

DO

DO

MY, THAT WAS A FINE DUEL! I'M PLEASED WE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE IT THROUGH.

BUT THE TRUTH IS, WEKAPIPO...

DO

DO

URGH!

THE DUEL WAS FAIR!

I HAVE THE POPE'S BLESSING FOR MY SISTER'S ANNULMENT!

W...WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

GAK!

HUH?!

WHAM

!!

AGH...!

WHAT?! WHAT IS THIS ?!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND! I'VE DONE NOTHING WRONG!

LEAVE THIS COUNTRY.

BUT I WILL MAKE IT SO THAT YOUR DEATH HAS ONLY OCCURRED *ON PAPER.*

YOU WILL NEVER BE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO THE KINGDOM OF NAPLES AGAIN. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

HIS FATHER IS AN INFLUENTIAL MAN IN THE KINGDOM.

UNFORTUNATELY, THINGS ARE NOT THAT SIMPLE.

YOU ARE OF A DIFFERENT STANDING, AND THEREFORE, YOU WILL BE *ERASED.* SUCH IS THE WAY OF THE WORLD.

YOU DOGS!! CURSE YOU!

I CAN'T DO THAT, WEKAPIPO.

SHE'S ALMOST COMPLETELY BLIND! PLEASE, LET ME SPEAK WITH THE KING!

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY SISTER IF THE KINGDOM TURNS ITS BACK ON HER? SHE CAN'T SURVIVE ON HER OWN NOW!

YOU'RE EXILING ME?!

YOU'LL BRING SHAME ON MY FAMILY!

ドガッ

WHAM

LET ME APPEAL TO THE POPE!

WSSS

SSSH

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY, IF YOU WISH.

IF YOU DO THIS FOR ME, I PROMISE YOU ***AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP*** WITH THE RIGHT OF ***PERMANENT RESIDENCE.*** YOU'LL ALSO BE GIVEN ***A HIGH-RANKING GOVERNMENT POSITION*** AND ALL THE STATUS THAT COMES WITH IT.

THE RECOVERY OF THE CORPSE PART IN THE SIXTH STAGE IS OUR TOP PRIORITY...

...IN ADDITION TO DISPOSING OF JOHNNY JOESTAR AND GYRO ZEPPELI.

I HAD A YOUNGER SISTER, BUT I LOST HER IN AN ACCIDENT LAST YEAR.

...I HAVE NONE.

BUT AS FOR MY FAMILY...

THANK YOU, SIR.

A REWARD FOR JUST MYSELF WILL SUFFICE.

SSSH

...

Wekapipo

Magent Magent

WSSSSH

WSSSSH

...

FREEZ

FREEZ

KA-
HACK!
HACK!
HORK!

HACK!
KOFF!
KOFF!

KOFF

HORK

SNIF
SNIF

SNIF

SNIF

LICK

SLURP

TELL ME WHAT YOU THINK. IT'S AN *ICE JOKE.*

I JUST THOUGHT OF SOME-THING FUNNY.

HEY— *KOFF!*

BUT FIRST, CAN I GET YOU TO CRY WITH ME? PRETEND TO CRY.

...

OH...YOU DIDN'T SEE THAT, DID YOU?

BOO-HOO... IT HURTS SO BAD...

OHHH, I'M SO SAD...

SOB

SOB

SOB

GO ON, ACT LIKE YOU'RE SAD AND CRYING.

DO IT WITH ME, OKAY?

CLUNK

CLUNK

CLUNK

CLUNK

CLUNK

NOW, BEHOLD! THE TEARS OF THE HIMALAYAN YETI!

WAAAH! I'M SOOO SAD!

Lake Huron

Lake Michigan

RUSTL

FUNNY, RIGHT?

KOFF!

TUMBL TUMBL

CLUNK

TCH!

IF ONLY THEY'D INVENTED IT A LITTLE SOONER, AM I RIGHT?!

...BUT THAT MACHINE COULD'VE BROUGHT US HERE BEFORE WE EVEN FELT A CHILL!

WE SPENT TWO WEEKS TRUDGING OUT TO THE ASS-END OF NO-WHERE...

HEY, WEKAPIPO, LISTEN TO THIS. HAVE YOU HEARD?

THERE'S THIS NEWFANGLED INVENTION THAT CAN FLY IN THE SKY LIKE A CONDOR.

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT A HOT-AIR BALLOON. APPARENTLY, IT'S GOT THESE HUGE WINGS. THEY CALL IT AN *AIR-PLANE.*

IT'S SUPER-FAST, TOO.

YOU BET I AM!

WE'RE LOOKING AT THE DAWN OF A NEW AGE!

YOU'RE SAYING THERE'S A MACHINE... THAT CAN FLY?

THAT MEANS NO ONE'S GOING TO NEED PEOPLE LIKE YOU AND ME ANYMORE.

THIS JOB WOULD GO TO SOMEONE ELSE.

IF IT'S THAT CONVENIENT, ANYONE COULD COME HERE IN NO TIME AT ALL.

ARE YOU DONE TALKING?

HAVE YOU SMILED A DAY IN YOUR LIFE? YOU'RE SUCH A DAMN DRAG.

DO YOU HAVE ANY FUN AT ALL? LIKE, *EVER?*

HEY, MAN.

NIT-PICKING ALL THE TIME TOO!

...

I AM HERE TO FAITHFULLY CARRY OUT THIS MISSION.

I WILL THEN RECEIVE THE MONEY AND THE HOME THAT I WAS PROMISED, AND I WILL LIVE A SIMPLE LIFE IN THIS COUNTRY.

THAT IS ALL.

BUT I'LL GIVE YOU ONE WORD OF ADVICE.

IF YOU'RE THINKING LIGHTLY OF GYRO ZEPPELI AND JOHNNY JOESTAR, DON'T.

BUT I KNOW THEIR SECRETS. I WILL SURPASS THEIR TECHNIQUES AND ELIMINATE THOSE TWO MEN.

UNDER-STAND?

THE ZEPPELIS' ***STEEL BALLS*** HAVE A DEEP AND ENIGMATIC HISTORY THAT YOU COULD SCARCELY BEGIN TO IMAGINE.

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN. YOU NEED TO ***RESPECT*** TO THE ZEPPELI FAMILY'S STEEL BALLS.

SO NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

SURE, I HEAR YOU. BUT LIKE YOU SAID, YOUR STEEL BALL TECHNIQUES ARE BETTER THAN THE ZEPPELIS', RIGHT?

RESPECT IS IMPORTANT.

WSH

AS LONG AS YOU HAVE THAT, WE WON'T LOSE. THAT'S HOW WE'LL BEAT THEM.

WSSH

SKF

SKF

TANG

TANG

TANG

TANG

TANG

TANG

FWOOOO

IT'S TOO THIN.

THE ICE IS 17 INCHES THICK...

...BUT THAT'S PROBABLY NOT ENOUGH TO CROSS WITH OUR HORSES.

THEY'RE RUNNING IT ON LAKE HURON WHERE THE WATER HASN'T FROZEN OVER.

THERE'S ONE SEVEN MILES AHEAD.

SO, WHAT? WE NEED A FERRY?

YEAH, HE'S DEFINITELY FOLLOWING US.

I MEAN, WE *MIGHT* BE ABLE TO CROSS.

IT'S ALWAYS A CLOSE CALL WHEN IT MATTERS THE MOST.

IT'S A CLOSE CALL.

NO, I SAID IT'S ***PROBABLY*** NOT THICK ENOUGH.

TMP

TMP

HE'S COMING THIS WAY.

EITHER WAY, WE SHOULD DECIDE QUICK AND GET MOVING.

IT'S HIM AGAIN.

DAMMIT! THAT MUTT'S AFTER OUR HORSES!

NOT THE WOLF, GYRO! TAKE ANOTHER LOOK.

BUT YOU JUST HAD TO GO AND FEEL SORRY FOR IT!

THIS IS ALL BECAUSE YOU FED IT YOUR SCRAPS THIS MORNING!

I DON'T CARE HOW YOUNG IT IS OR IF IT'S ABOUT TO KEEL OVER AND DIE FROM STARVATION. IT'S STILL GONNA COME AFTER OUR HORSES!

I SWEAR, JOHNNY. THIS IS WHY I TOLD YOU TO LEAVE THE THING ALONE.

PAST THOSE TREES BEHIND THE WOLF CUB.

THERE, IN THE DISTANCE.

DO DO DO

DO DO DO

DO

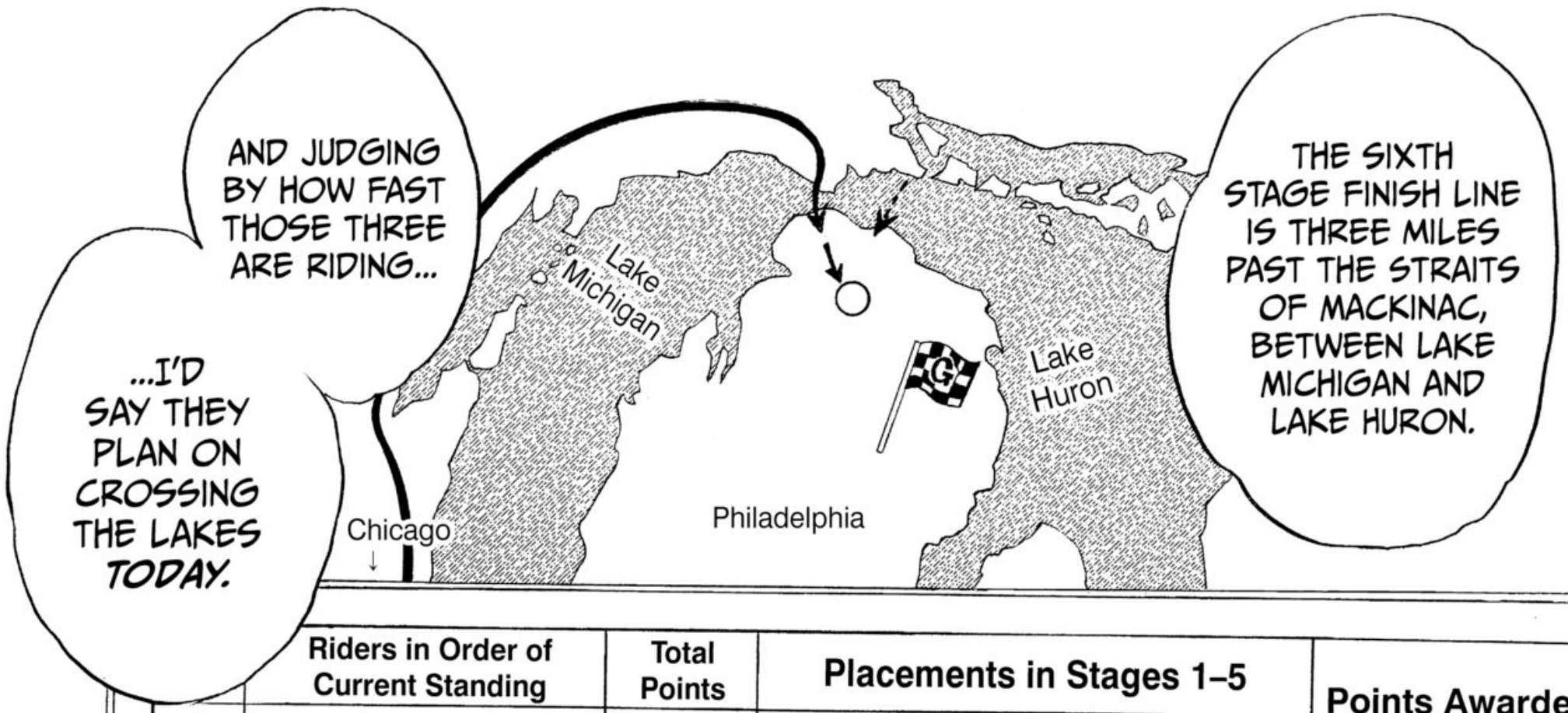
DO DO DO DO

DO DO

DO DO

DO

DO


AND JUDGING BY HOW FAST THOSE THREE ARE RIDING...
...I'D SAY THEY PLAN ON CROSSING THE LAKES TODAY.
Lake Michigan
Chicago
Philadelphia
Lake Huron
THE SIXTH STAGE FINISH LINE IS THREE MILES PAST THE STRAITS OF MACKINAC, BETWEEN LAKE MICHIGAN AND LAKE HURON.

	Riders in Order of Current Standing	Total Points	Placements in Stages 1–5
1	Pocoloco	233	3rd–9th–5th–2nd–1st
2	Hot Pants	215	6th–5th–1st–7th–3rd
3	Johnny Joestar	195	5th–2nd–2nd–4th–5th
4	Diego Brando	190	2nd–1st–3rd–DNP–DNP
5	Norisuke Higashikata	188	19th–6th–12th–1st–2nd
6	Gyro Zeppeli	146	21st–4th–4th–3rd–4th

Points Awarded for Stage Placement

1st	100
2nd	50
3rd	40
4th	35
5th	30
6th	25
7th	20
...	...
21st	1

WITH ALL THAT SAID AND DONE, THAT LEAVES POCOLOCO AS THE FRONT-RUNNER IN THE RACE.
IF HE TAKES ANOTHER 100 POINTS IN THIS STAGE...
...I'M SCREWED.
DID YOU SAY POCO-LOCO?!
DIO IS STILL LAGGING BEHIND, AND HOT PANTS MADE IT CLEAR HE'S NOT IN THIS TO WIN.

AND THAT'S NOT ALL.

SHF

WE STILL HAVE THAT *OTHER MATTER* TO WORRY ABOUT. THE NEXT *CORPSE PART* IS INCREDIBLY CLOSE.

THE *LEGS* ARE SOMEWHERE NEAR THE FINISH LINE! THEY MUST BE HERE ON THE LAKE-SHORE...

...OR MAYBE EVEN UNDER THIS ICE!

SKSSSSH

SKSSSH

SKSSH

DUO

WHOA, WHOA, WHOA!

WHOM

THOSE IDIOTS MUST'VE DECIDED TO CROSS THE ICE ON HORSEBACK!

HE'S GOING TO CROSS!

POCOLOCO JUST CHANGED COURSE!

ドゴ

VWOOM

ドドド

IT'S YOUR DECISION. BUT IF THAT ICE BREAKS UNDER US...

WHAT SHOULD WE DO, GYRO?

HAAH

...EVEN IN THE BEST-CASE SCENARIO, WE'D STILL LOSE THE HORSES.

MAYBE HE'S FOUND IT.

DAMN POCO-LOCO.

THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S ROUTE.

JOLT

LO-?!!

In Order of Current Standing	Total Points
1	233
2	Poco-loco
3	215
4	Hot Pants
5	Johnny Joestar
6	Diego Brando
	Norisuke Higashikata
	Gyro Zeppeli

...THEN WITH ONLY THREE STAGES LEFT, MY CHANCES OF WINNING WILL BE AS THIN AS THIS ICE!

AND WITH HOW FAST POCOLOCO IS RIDING...

...I'D BET HE'S FOUND IT BEFORE I COULD. THAT'S PROBABLY WHY HE'S HEADED FOR THE ICE!

THEN THE LOGS BECOME FROZEN IN THE ICE.

SUPPOSEDLY, IT MAKES THE ICE STRONGER. I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR ANYTHING THAT FITS THE BILL, BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SEE A DAMN THING THROUGH THIS SNOW.

AT THE FIRST SIGNS OF WINTER, THEY LINE UP TREE LOGS LIKE RAFTS IN THE WATER TO MAKE A PATH.

ACCORDING TO WHAT I'VE HEARD...

...THEY HAVE A WAY OF CROSSING THE LAKE BY HORSE OR SLED WHEN THE ICE IS THIN.

THEY HAVE A ROUTE?

YEAH.

ARE YOU SURE THAT'S NOT SOME MYTH?

EVEN IF IT IS A TALL TALE, DOESN'T HURT TO KEEP AN EYE OUT.

WSH

HOW DO YOU KNOW THESE RAFTS EXTEND THE ENTIRE WAY?

EVEN AT THEIR NARROWEST, THE STRAITS ARE A FULL FIVE MILES ACROSS.

DO DO DO DO DO DO DO DO

WHMMMM

ビュー

ビュー

ドドド

KRIK

KRIK

ドドド

DON'T KNOW. I'VE NEVER SEEN THEM BEFORE.

THEY MIGHT NOT BE IN THE RACE. ONE'S RIDING A SLED.

HOW MANY POINTS DO *THEY* HAVE?

WHO THE HELL ARE THOSE GUYS?

THERE'S TWO MORE COMING UP BEHIND POCOLOCO'S GROUP.

ドド

ドド

ドド

ドド

I THINK I RECOGNIZE HIM FROM SOMEWHERE.

WE'VE MET BEFORE.

YOU SURE ...?

THE GUY ON THE LEFT...

ARE...ARE THEY MORE TERRORISTS?!

THEY'RE NOT FOLLOW-ING THE OTHERS!

GYRO... THOSE TWO GUYS... THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY.

THEY'RE NOT CROSSING THE LAKE LIKE POCOLOCO'S GROUP! THEY'RE HEADED STRAIGHT FOR US!

WE MIGHT HAVE ENEMIES NEARBY, BUT WE HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE NEXT CORPSE PART YET!

IF ANYONE'S GOING TO ATTACK US, IT'LL BE AFTER WE FIND IT.

NO! THERE'S NO WAY!

DO

I'M SURE I KNOW HIM, I JUST CAN'T REMEMBER FROM WHERE...

BUT WHO IS THAT MAN?

ドドド

WAIT... IS THAT ?!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT...

IT CAN'T BE!

キャ

FUM

ドー

VWOOOM

WATCH OUT! HERE IT COMES!

WHAM

WHAT THE ...?!

FWOOM

GYRO !!

IT'S A STEEL BALL!!

VWOOM

VWSH

FWISH

WHRR

WE'RE ABOUT TO GET HIT WITH THE *SATELLITES* NEXT!

YANK

JOHNNY! GET DOWN!!

OF ALL THE...! THAT MAN! HE'S FROM MY HOME COUNTRY!

I RE-MEMBER NOW...

WSH

WOOSH

ドドド

ドドド

THAT'S HIM, NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. BUT HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD!

WEKA-PIPO!

?!

... HUH?

STAY CALM, JOHNNYYY ...

DON'T PAAANIC...

...OF THE ZEPPELI FAMILY'S *STEEL BALLS*...

THE TRUE STRENGTH ...

...LIES IN THE POWER OF *THE GOLDEN RECTANGLE.*

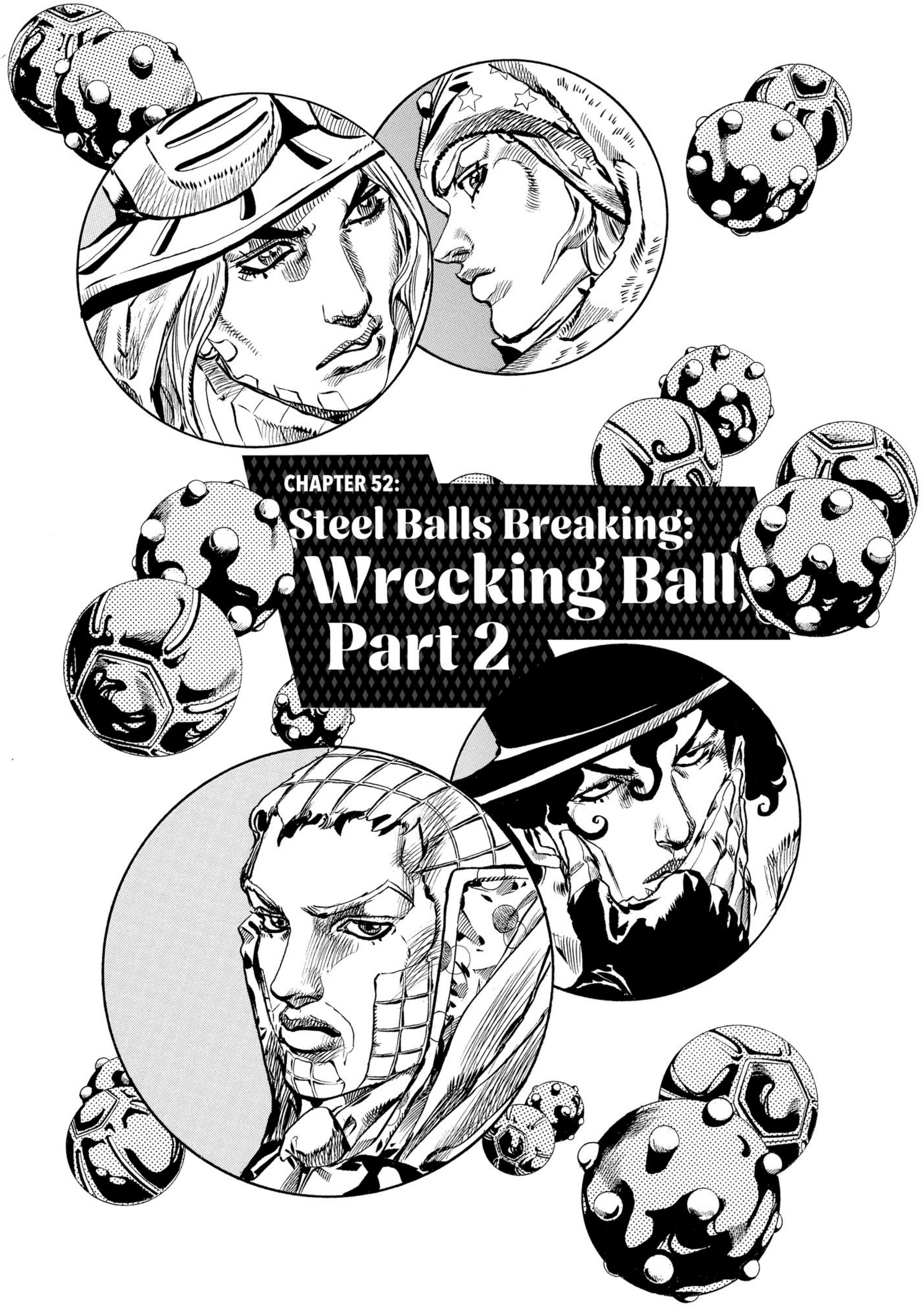
AND WE WILL SURPASS THAT POWER!

WHA... WHAT THE HELL ?!

GYRO! AGH...!

WHAT ?

AAH!



CHAPTER 52:

Steel Balls Breaking: Wrecking Ball, Part 2

...

KLATTR

KLATTR

KLATTR

KLATTR

KLATTR

WHAM

WSSSSSH

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

KLATTR

WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?

THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT.

THE GIRL WAS WORKING AND FELL DOWN SOME STAIRS... I BELIEVE SHE HAS A HEAD INJURY AND A FRACTURED LEFT SHOULDER.

KA-KLAK

WHER

WHER

WHER

AGHHH

HSSSSSSSH

...

MOTHER...

WHERE'S FATHER?

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

GYRO... WHAT'S WRONG?

DON'T GET DISTRACTED. FOCUS ON TREATING HER INJURIES, NOTHING MORE.

...

SHE'S ONE OF FATHER'S PATIENTS.

I'VE MET THIS WOMAN BEFORE.

HE'S GONE TO FLORENCE.

HER OPTIC NERVES ARE DAMAGED.

EVEN IF WE SENT A MESSAGE NOW...

...IT WOULD TAKE HIM ANOTHER THREE DAYS TO RETURN HOME.

THEN I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOUR FATHER WOULD SAY.

NO...NO, THEY'RE NOT.

...WHAT'S HER CURRENT CONDITION? ARE HER INJURIES LIFE-THREATENING?

HER VISUAL IMPAIRMENT MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO HER FALL, BUT HER MEDICAL HISTORY ASIDE...

YOUR FATHER TOLD ME ABOUT HER.

SHE'LL LIVE.

"DON'T OVERSTEP."

"IF YOU CAN SAVE HER LIFE, YOU SHOULD BE THANKFUL FOR THAT MUCH."

BUT WITH OUR STEEL BALLS, THE PROCEDURE IS POSSIBLE. SHE COULD RECOVER HER EYESIGHT.

I ADMIT IT'S A DIFFICULT ONE.

STILL... WHY DID FATHER NEVER REPAIR HER EYES?

ALL IT WOULD NEED IS A PRECISE ENOUGH SPIN TO TURN THIS NEEDLE.

IT'S THIS PART OF HER OPTIC NERVES.

LOOK HERE. THIS IS THE INJURY.

...AND ALLOW HER EYES TO SEE THE WORLD ONCE MORE.

THAT SHOULD RECONNECT THE SEVERED NERVE...

GYRO.

I'M NO EXPERT WHEN IT COMES TO STEEL BALLS OR MEDICAL PROCEDURES, BUT I KNOW THIS.

THAT WOMAN'S EYESIGHT IS NOT OUR BUSINESS.

YOUR ONLY RESPONSIBILITY IS TO TREAT THE INJURIES FROM HER ACCIDENT.

DOESN'T SHE HAVE ANY FAMILY?

I DIDN'T SEE ANYONE OUT IN THE HALL.

NO ONE HAS COME FOR HER. THIS WOMAN...

A FORMER GUARD...?

THAT'S WHY SHE WAS BROUGHT HERE. THE GIRL IS A PARIAH...NO ONE ELSE WOULD DEIGN TO LOOK AFTER HER.

SHE HAD AN OLDER BROTHER. A FORMER GUARDSMAN. BUT HE WAS KILLED IN A DUEL. A QUARREL REGARDING HER DIVORCE.

SHE'S ON HER OWN.

THIS WOMAN IS *TROUBLE*, GYRO. DON'T STEP OUT OF LINE FOR HER.

GRAB

KLETT

BUT THAT QUESTION DOESN'T APPLY TO HER!

WHEN THE BALL LANDS ON THE NET, ON WHICH SIDE WILL IT FALL ...?

IF I DO NOTHING, SHE WILL REMAIN FOREVER ADRIFT IN DARKNESS.

THE BALL WON'T FALL AT ALL.

FSSSSSH

FWM

WHAT?! THE STEAM...!

!!

WHMMMMM

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

ゴゴゴゴ GWOOO

ゴゴゴゴ OOO

BA-DADUM

ドカラ…

BA-DADUM

ドカラッ!!

BA-DADUM

ドカラ…

W...WHAT THE HELL IS THIS? GYRO?!

ドドド

STAY CALM, JOHNNY.

DON'T PANIC!

VWISH

ドシュッ!!

VWOOOOM

ボボボボ

AND MINE TOO...I'M MISSING MY LEFT SIDE!

HALF OF YOUR BODY IS GONE!

ドドド

IF HE HAD MADE A DIRECT HIT WITH HIS ***STEEL BALL*** JUST NOW, WE'D BE DEAD. BUT THE SHOCK WAVES ALONE ARE STILL STRONG ENOUGH TO DO ***THIS!***

AND WE'RE EXPERIENCING ***LEFT-SIDE ATAXIA!***

THIS MAN WAS A GUARDSMAN BACK IN MY HOMELAND. HIS NAME IS ***WEKAPIPO.***

IT'S CALLED ***WRECKING BALL!***

HIS TECHNIQUE IS DIFFERENT FROM THE ZEPPELIS'. IT WAS CREATED FOR THE ROYAL GUARDS TO USE IN BATTLE.

LEFT-SIDE ***WHAT?***

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE LEFT HALF OF OUR BODIES?!

THAT'S WHAT HE DID TO US!

YOUR EYES CAN SEE THEM JUST FINE—IT'S ***YOUR BRAIN*** THAT'S CONVINCED THEY'RE GONE!

BUT THOSE HALVES ARE STILL THERE!

THE SHOCK WAVES FROM HIS STEEL BALL HAVE MADE IT LOOK LIKE THE ***LEFT HALF*** OF EVERYTHING IS ***GONE!***

HE ALTERED YOUR ***PERCEPTION,*** GET IT? IT'S WHY YOU CAN'T SEE ANYTHING ON THE LEFT!

THAT'S WHAT HIS ABILITY DOES!

NOW LISTEN TO ME. DON'T PANIC. THESE ***SHOCK WAVES*** DISSIPATE IN A LITTLE MORE THAN TEN SECONDS!

EVEN WHEN YOU ARE TOUCHING YOUR ARM, YOUR BRAIN HAS YOU TRICKED INTO THINKING YOU AREN'T!

AND I'M TELLING YOU THAT'S ONLY WHAT ***HE'S*** MAKING YOU THINK!

I'M TRYING TO FIND MY LEFT ARM, BUT MY HAND JUST GOES RIGHT THROUGH IT! MY LEFT SIDE IS COMPLETELY ***GONE!***

I MEAN, LOOK! I CAN'T EVEN FEEL IT!

TH-THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!

SWSH

SWSH

YOU'LL BE BACK TO NORMAL BEFORE LONG!

OUR REAL PROBLEM IS THE GUY WHO JUST RODE HIS SLED AROUND TO OUR LEFT!

BECAUSE AS IT STANDS, HE'S COMPLETELY INVISIBLE TO US!

WSSSSSH

IT'S A STANDARD TACTIC USED BY THE GUARDS IN MY COUNTRY!

WHAT ?!

AND THAT MEANS WEKAPIPO'S PARTNER MUST BE CLOSING IN ON US!

IF IT'S ON THE *RIGHT*, YOU CAN SEE IT!

?!

SO QUIT TRYING!

LISTEN TO ME, JOHNNY. RIGHT NOW, THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN SEE *LEFT SIDES.*

LOOK FOR THE *RIGHT SIDE* INSTEAD!

MAKE A FULL TURN AROUND. KEEP LOOKING TO THE RIGHT AND FIND THE SECOND MAN!

TURN YOUR HEAD TO THE RIGHT!

SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU KEEP TURNING THAT WAY?

KEEP TURNING *RIGHT!*

THE LEFT SIDE OF THOSE SLOPES JUST *DISAPPEARED!*

E-EVEN THE MOUNTAINS ARE CUT IN HALF!

I CAN'T HEAR ANY OF IT!

WHERE'S THE SOUND OF THE HORSES' HOOFBEATS OR THE SLED?

ARE YOU SURE HE'S COMING FOR US?!

GYRO, LOOK OUT!!

DOOM

THE RIGHT!

TO THE RIGHT!

AH!

BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG

BOOM

SKSSH

TMP

TMP

SKF

SKF

SKREEEE

...

THUK

THUP

THUK

UWM

YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT ME...

...AND MY ABILITY, *WRECKING BALL.*

GYRO... SON OF THE ZEPPELI FAMILY.

SO YOU KNOW, DO YOU?

WSSSH

WSSH

WSSH

WSSH

?!

WSSSSH

KRAK

WHAM

ドゴ

ORAAA!!

GYRO!!

DRIP

ボドボド

DRIP

DRIP

ボド

GSSSH

ゴワア

WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WSSH
DID...

DID YOU DO IT, GYRO?!

?!

THE GUY ON THE LEFT...

IS HE DEAD?!

WSSSSSSH

HE'S NOT MOVING!

BUT WHAT WAS THAT? IT'S LIKE MY BULLET HOLES AND THE SPIN FROM YOUR STEEL BALL JUST RAN AWAY ACROSS THE ICE!

IS IT POSSIBLE HE FOUND A WAY TO BLOCK OUR ATTACKS? IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THERE'S A SCRATCH ON HIM!

THOKK

BANG

...BUT THEN IT BLEW RIGHT PAST HIM! IT'S LIKE HE REDIRECTED THE IMPACT FROM THE SHOT INTO THE GROUND!

OKAY, THAT NAIL BULLET DEFINITELY HIT THE MARK...

WHOA, WHOA! HOLD ON A DAMN MINUTE...

WSSSSH

WSH

JUST THE ONE ON THE RIGHT. *WEKAPIPO.*

BUT ONLY BY NAME. WE'RE NOT EXACTLY FRIENDS.

GYRO! DO YOU KNOW THOSE GUYS?!

TMP

TMP

TMP

...OR THEIR SHOCK WAVES WILL DEAL US ANOTHER DOSE OF *LEFT-SIDE ATAXIA.*

EITHER WE GET WALLOPED BY HIS STEEL BALL'S *SATELLITES...*

IT'LL BE THE SAME TECHNIQUE.

JOHNNY... HE'S GOING TO THROW HIS STEEL BALL AT US AGAIN.

GET READY FOR THE NEXT ONE!

EXCEPT THIS TIME, HE WON'T WAIT TO SHOOT.

KRIK KRIK

MNCH MNCH

AND IF WE DO GET BLINDED ON THE LEFT...

...THAT OTHER GUY WILL START COMING FOR US AGAIN!

THEY MUST KNOW WE DON'T HAVE THE CORPSE! EVEN IF THEY WANT US OUT OF THE PICTURE, THEY'D BE BETTER OFF WAITING UNTIL AFTER WE'VE FOUND THE NEXT PARTS!

THANKS TO THESE HERBS, MY NAIL BULLETS SHOULD ONLY NEED ABOUT TEN SECONDS TO REGROW!

BUT WHAT ARE THESE TWO GUYS AFTER ANYWAY?

KRIK KRIK

THERE'S NOTHING AROUND BUT SNOW AND ICE! AND EVEN THAT'LL BE GONE COME SPRINGTIME!

WHY ATTACK US *HERE*, OF ALL PLACES?

SKSSSH

ザザ

ザザ

ドロ

Pesi Pesi

IT'S THE *LEGS!*

MAYBE HE FIGURED OUT THE LOCATION OF THE NEXT CORPSE PARTS *BEFORE* WE DID!

WHAT IF WEKAPIPO KNOWS...?

THE *SPINE* IS THE ONLY PART THAT REVEALS THE MAP!

TH...THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

AND THAT'S WITH *HOT PANTS* NOW. THERE'S NO WAY THOSE GUYS COULD HAVE FIGURED IT OUT BEFORE US.

HE COULD HAVE REALIZED WHERE THEY WERE WHEN HE GOT HERE!

IF SO... IT'D CERTAINLY EXPLAIN WHY HE'S SO EAGER TO KILL US.

ザ ザ ザ ザ ザ ザ

WSSSS

SSH

WHEN I GRABBED THE PARTS OF THE CORPSE, A MAP APPEARED IN THE SNOW FOR JUST A BRIEF MOMENT.

RIGHT THERE AT JOHNNY JOESTAR'S FEET.

...HE SAID...

WHEN HE RETURNED WITH THE EARS AND RIGHT ARM HE TOOK FROM JOHNNY JOESTAR...

OF THE 11 MEN, ONLY ONE MANAGED TO MAKE IT BACK WITH HIS LIFE.

PANT

PANT

PANT

GLANCE

"REMEMBER, WEKAPIPO. JUST BECAUSE THESE RELICS BELONG TO A CORPSE, THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY'LL ALWAYS BE BURIED UNDER-GROUND."

"THEY MIGHT BE **MOBILE.**"

"THEY COULD HAVE COMBINED WITH **SOMETHING LIVING** OR BEEN SWEPT AWAY BY **SOMETHING LIKE SAND.**"

"FOLLOW JOHNNY JOESTAR. KEEP AN EYE ON HIM... BECAUSE THE CORPSE **CHOOSES** THE STAND USER."

IT WAS PRETTY CRUDE, BUT I'D RECOGNIZE THE STRAITS OF MACKINAC ANYWHERE.

AND THERE'S MORE.

SKSSSH

I ONLY GOT A GLIMPSE, BUT THERE WAS AN ANIMAL ON THE MAP TOO.

SKSSSH

Dio Despedis

I'M SURE IT WAS AN ANIMAL.

BUT ONCE I GOT HOLD OF THE EARS AND THE ARM, THE IMAGES DISAPPEARED. I NEVER GOT ANOTHER LOOK.

PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
SHF
SWSH
...AND YET IT'S BEEN FOLLOWING JOESTAR AND ZEPPELI SINCE LAST NIGHT.
IT DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE AFTER THEIR HORSES...
THERE'S THAT WOLF AGAIN.
...BUT NOW I HAVE NO DOUBT.
THEY DON'T SEEM TO HAVE REALIZED ITS SIGNIFICANCE...

KRIK KRIK KRIK

KRIK KRIK KRIK KRIK

UP UNTIL NOW, I'VE BEEN USING OUR HORSES' MANES AS MY TEMPLATE.

MAYBE THE BRANCHES OR LEAVES ON THE TREES, OR THE WINGS OF A BIRD IF ONE'S FLYING CLOSE ENOUGH.

KRIK KRIK KRIK

GYRO...

MY NAILS HAVE FINALLY GROWN BACK.

ABOUT MY NAIL BULLETS' SPIN...

BUT, WELL...

BUT I COULDN'T DO IT! HOW ARE YOU STILL FINDING THE RIGHT CURVE?

IF I HAD USED AN ACCURATE SPIN JUST NOW, I MIGHT'VE HIT THAT GUY BEFORE HE GOT HIS DEFENSES UP.

I'M TALKING ABOUT *THE GOLDEN SPIN.*

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?!

WSSSSSH

THERE'S NO PLANT LIFE! WHERE SHOULD I LOOK WHEN I SPIN MY NAIL BULLETS?
WE'RE TOO FAR FROM THE SHORELINE AND ALL THOSE TREES.
THE GOLDEN RECTANGLE, MAN! I CAN'T SEE IT OUT HERE!

PLIP
PLIP

NO... THERE'S TWO OF THEM!

WHMMMM

ガオ

HE THREW TWO BALLS AT US!

VWOOOOM

ギャアアア

IT'S COMING!

GYRO! HE JUST THREW THE NEXT ONE!

THE ZEPPELI FAMILY HAS LONG SOUGHT THE POWER OF THE INFINITE SPIN FROM *THE GOLDEN RECTANGLE.*

THEIR KNOWLEDGE IS DERIVED FROM PROFOUND INSIGHTS INTO *NATURE* AND THE *LIVING WORLD.*

IN THAT WAY, I OFFER MY RESPECT TO THEIR *STEEL BALLS.*

WHRR

WHRR

BUT THIS IS *A FROZEN WASTELAND.*

WHERE WOULD THEY POSSIBLY FIND THEIR PRECIOUS *GOLDEN TEMPLATE* HERE?

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... GYRO'S STEEL BALLS...

HE KNOCKED THEM RIGHT OUT OF THE AIR.

WHAMMM

THUNK

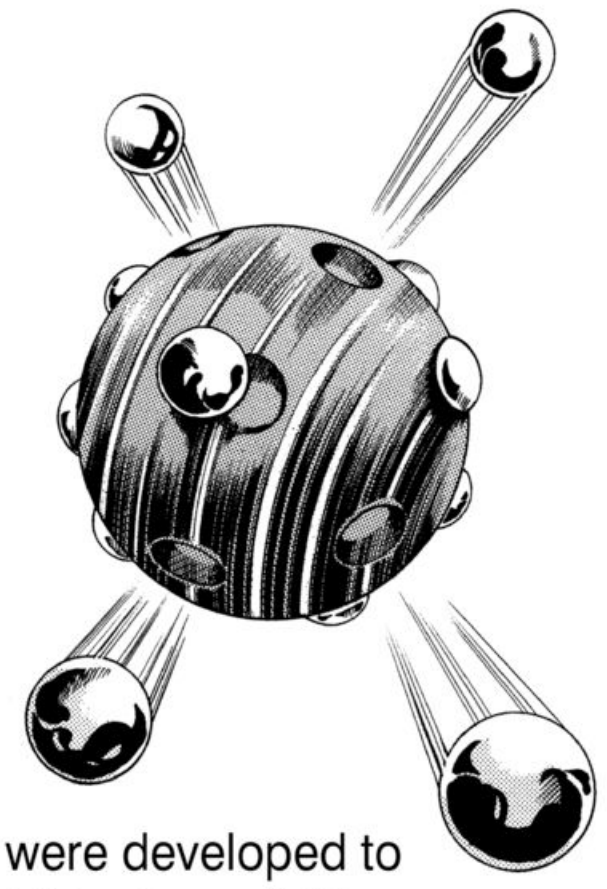
THUNK

Wekapipo

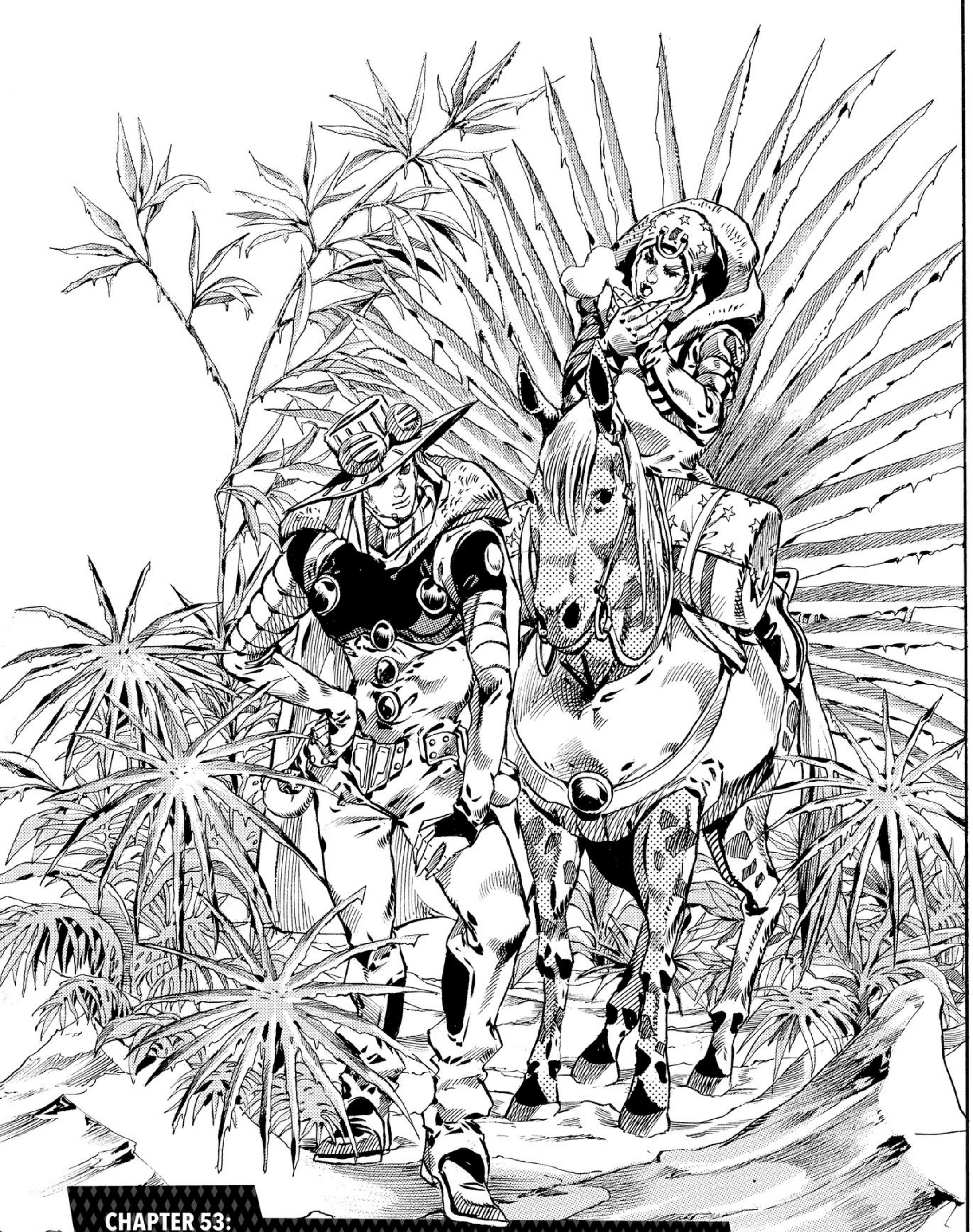
Steel Ball user

Each steel ball holds 14 smaller spheres called satellites.

Wrecking Ball



Wekapipo uses techniques that were developed to protect the royal family. A direct hit by the satellites can cause significant injury on their own, but even the shock waves from a near miss to the head will disable opponents by making them unable to perceive the left side of everything around them for several seconds.



CHAPTER 53:

Steel Balls Breaking: Wrecking Ball, Part 3

FWM

SWSH

...

...

WHAM

DAMN IT!!

IT WASN'T THE GOLDEN SPIN.

BUT NONETHELESS, THE CURVE OF THE STEEL BALL'S ROTATION WAS IMPERFECT.

FSSSSH

IT REACHED MY HAND DURING THE OPERATION AND DISTURBED MY FINGERS FOR THE SLIGHTEST MOMENT. AN ALMOST IMPERCEPTIBLE STROKE OF CHANCE...

THE OPERATION SHOULD HAVE BEEN A SUCCESS! HOW COULD THIS HAVE HAPPENED?

WAS IT THE STEAM?! THAT STEAM FROM THE BOILING WATER...

THIS WOMAN WILL NEVER SEE AGAIN...

I FAILED TO ACHIEVE THE PROPER SPIN...

THERE'S NO EXCUSE...

IT...

IT'S ALL MY FAULT...

I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SEE FOR SOME TIME NOW.

WHY ARE YOU ANGRY?

I'M JUST THANKFUL THAT YOU SAVED ME AFTER MY ACCIDENT.

TRULY, I AM.

...

DOCTOR ...?

THIS IS WRONG...

NO...

...

THANK YOU.

...ALL BECAUSE OF ME.

IF MY FATHER HAD ATTEMPTED THE OPERATION, HE WOULD HAVE SUCCEEDED. THIS WOMAN SHOULD HAVE BEEN CURED. AND NOW THAT WILL NEVER HAPPEN...

...

...

WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHAM
IT'S GOTTA BE ALL THIS ICE, RIGHT...? THAT'S HOW THOSE TWO STEEL BALLS HE THREW OVER-POWERED YOURS!
DO
DO
DO
DO
IT CAN'T BE! YOUR *GOLDEN SPIN* DIDN'T WORK!
THWP
THUNK
GYRO... AS A ZEPPELI, IT IS YOUR DUTY NOT TO OVER-STEP THE BOUNDARIES OF THE HEART.
WHEN THE TENNIS BALL STRIKES THE TOP OF THE NET, NO ONE CAN KNOW ON WHICH SIDE THE BALL WILL LAND.

VWOOOM

POP

POP

POP

JOHNNY!! SHOOT THEM DOWN! BEFORE THE SATELLITES START FLYING TOWARD US!

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

KA-BWOOSH

GLANCE

ZUMMM

MM!

SHF

WHRL

!?

FWSH

ARWOO!

BOOM

THE GUY ON THE LEFT...HE COULD HAVE SHOT US, SO WHY DIDN'T HE?

AND THAT HOWL... DID HE JUST SHOOT THE WOLF?!

WHAT THE HELL WAS HE SHOOTING AT?!

WHAT ?!

WHINE...

THERE'S STILL TWO SATELLITES UP THERE!

SHOOOM

ヤアアア

KRUNCH

ドカ

ドカ

WSSSSSH

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

TOSS

WELL, GYRO, WE ESCAPED THOSE SATELLITES.

BUT I'VE GOT BAD NEWS.

I JUST USED THE LAST OF MY NAIL BULLETS!

KRIK

KRIK

KRIK

KRIK

IT'LL TAKE A GOOD TEN SECONDS AT LEAST FOR THEM TO GROW BACK.

WSS

SSSH

HE'S KNOWN FOR STOMPING OUT HIS OPPONENTS' ADVANTAGES ONE BY ONE.

HIS STEEL BALL TECHNIQUE IS DIFFERENT FROM MY FAMILY'S. HIS WAS DESIGNED TO DEFEND THE ROYAL FAMILY AS A SOLDIER.

WEKAPIPO.

THE GOLDEN RECTANGLE.

THAT'S WHY HE CHOSE TO ATTACK US IN THIS BARREN WORLD OF THE FROZEN STRAITS!

HE'S STRIPPING ME OF EVERY POINT OF REFERENCE I COULD USE.

NOW, AT LEAST...

...WE'VE SECURED THE CORPSE PART. WE CAN ELIMINATE JOESTAR WITHOUT FEAR OF LOSING IT.

AND MY SATELLITES' SHOCK WAVES SHOULD HAVE REACHED THEM BY NOW.

YES.

THAT'S GOOD.

NICELY DONE, *MAGENT MAGENT.*

SHM DO

SHM DO

SPUF

SPUF

SPUF

SPUF

THE *LEFT-SIDE ATAXIA* IS TAKING EFFECT!

DOO

OOM

WSH

FWM

FWM

IT'S ALL DISAP-PEAR-ING AGAIN!

GYRO! EVERY-THING ON THE LEFT...

SHOOOM

ドドド

GWOOOO

GLANCE

GLANCE

KRUNCH

KRUNCH

WHSSSH

SHMMMMM

OUR LAST ATTACKS CARVED TRACKS ACROSS THE GROUND!

THE BEST WE CAN DO IS TRY TO GUESS WHERE HE IS BASED ON THE MARKS IN THE ICE!

JOHNNY JOESTAR ALREADY USED UP HIS NAIL BULLETS. HE'S AS GOOD AS DEAD.

ALL RIGHT.

I'M STARTING WITH YOU, GYRO ZEPPELI.

ORAAA!!

KLIK

FWSSSSH

ア ア ア ア

ド ド ド ド ド ド ド ド ド

DO DO DO DO DO

OH, GREAT! EXCEPT THOSE TRACKS GO TO THE LEFT TOO! THEY JUST VANISH THE SECOND I LOOK AT 'EM!

WSH

FWOOOSH

WHAT?! BUT IT'S COMIN' RIGHT AT ME! HEY...!

!!

WHM

...

DID... DID YOU MISS?!

HELL, I CAN'T EVEN TELL THAT MUCH ANYMORE!

GSSSSH

BANG

JOHNNY, GET DOWN!

WOOSH

SPLATTR

SPLATTR

I ONLY GRAZED HIM. IT DIDN'T DO ENOUGH DAMAGE!

CRAP, IT'S NO GOOD! THAT BLOOD'S NOTHING!

Y-YOU DID IT!

HE'S OVER THERE! YOU HIT HIM!

WHM

WHM

...

D... DAMMIT! THAT HURTS!!

SPURT

SPURT

SPURT

GWSSSSH

IF HE'D THROWN THAT BALL WITH THE GOLDEN SPIN, IT WOULD'VE WRENCHED YOUR ENTIRE ARM FROM YOUR BODY.

YOU WERE LUCKY.

WHAT THE HELL, MAN?! I THOUGHT HE WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE ABLE TO SEE ON HIS LEFT!

WEKAPIPO!! THAT BASTARD TORE A CHUNK OUT OF MY SHOULDER!

YOU TWO ARE DEAD MEAT, YOU HEAR ME?!

THIS IS A DISASTER!

BANG

ドゥ

FWIP

THWUKK

URGH!

ドガ

KRAKK

ドガ

WHAM

オボ

BANG

ドド

BANG

ドド

GYRO !!

EVEN IF YOU GRABBED IT, YOUR MIND STILL WOULDN'T REGISTER THAT YOU DID!

STOP IT, JOHNNY! YOU'LL NEVER FIND THE STEEL BALL ON THAT SIDE!

BUT IT *HAS* TO BE HERE!!

IT'S OVER HERE! THE OTHER BALL! I KNOW IT'S HERE SOME-WHERE!!

FWISH

FWISH

AAAAAAGH!!

SHLUR GOD GUD

RUSTL RUSTL

BECAUSE I'VE JUST ACQUIRED A *THIRD* STEEL BALL.

DON'T WORRY, JOHNNY.

THAT GUY ON THE LEFT? WE'VE GOT HIM BEAT.

THAT BULLET YOU JUST SHOT INTO GYRO!

YOU'RE WATCHING FOR IT, AREN'T YOU?!

MAGENT! NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO GET COCKY!

THE ZEPPELI FAMILY MAY BE EXECUTIONERS, BUT THEY'RE ALSO *DOCTORS!*

GO TO HELL, ASS-HOLE!

...AND SHOOT IT BACK AT YOU LIKE ANOTHER STEEL BALL!

HE'S GOING TO TAKE THAT BULLET...

HE MIGHT HAVE LET YOU SHOOT HIM.

WHAT ...?!

ドゴン

VWOOOM

WSH

ODD

...

SHLUP

ガッ

KAPWAAANG

CHIK

KRIK

KRIK

WOOOOSH

THP

THP

ドドド

LOOKS LIKE YOUR LEFT-SIDE ATAXIA WENT AWAY AGAIN.

DID YOU JUST TRY TO PICK THAT UP?!

WERE YOU GONNA PICK UP THAT OTHER BALL?

WHOA!

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

MAYBE YOU SHOULD PICK IT UP. OR AT LEAST TRY.

WHO KNOWS? IT MIGHT EVEN WORK.

I DON'T CARE EITHER WAY.

WHRR

WHRR

KRIK KRIK KRIK

MAGENT! WHY ARE YOU WASTING WORDS WITH HIM? HE'S STALLING!

YOU SHOT THAT WOLF.

YOU...

WHRR WHRR WHRR

DOES THAT MEAN... THE WOLF HAS THE CORPSE?

DOES THE WOLF'S BODY CONTAIN THE CORPSE'S LEGS? IS THAT WHY YOU SHOT IT?

SHWAKK

SHLOOP

GWSH

YEAH... THE MAN'S GOT A POINT.

HURRY UP AND KILL HIM!

SPSSSSH

DD

D.D.D

THAT DEFEN-SIVE STAND OF YOURS ...

YOU SHOULD'VE WAITED A LITTLE WHILE BEFORE YOU CALLED IT OFF.

AT LEAST UNTIL THAT BULLET CAME BACK DOWN.

NGH.

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

...

KRUNCH

KRUNCH

HE'S COMING IN FOR ANOTHER ATTACK! ARE YOUR NAIL BULLETS BACK YET?

'CAUSE YOU BETTER BE READY TO SHOOT!

WHRL

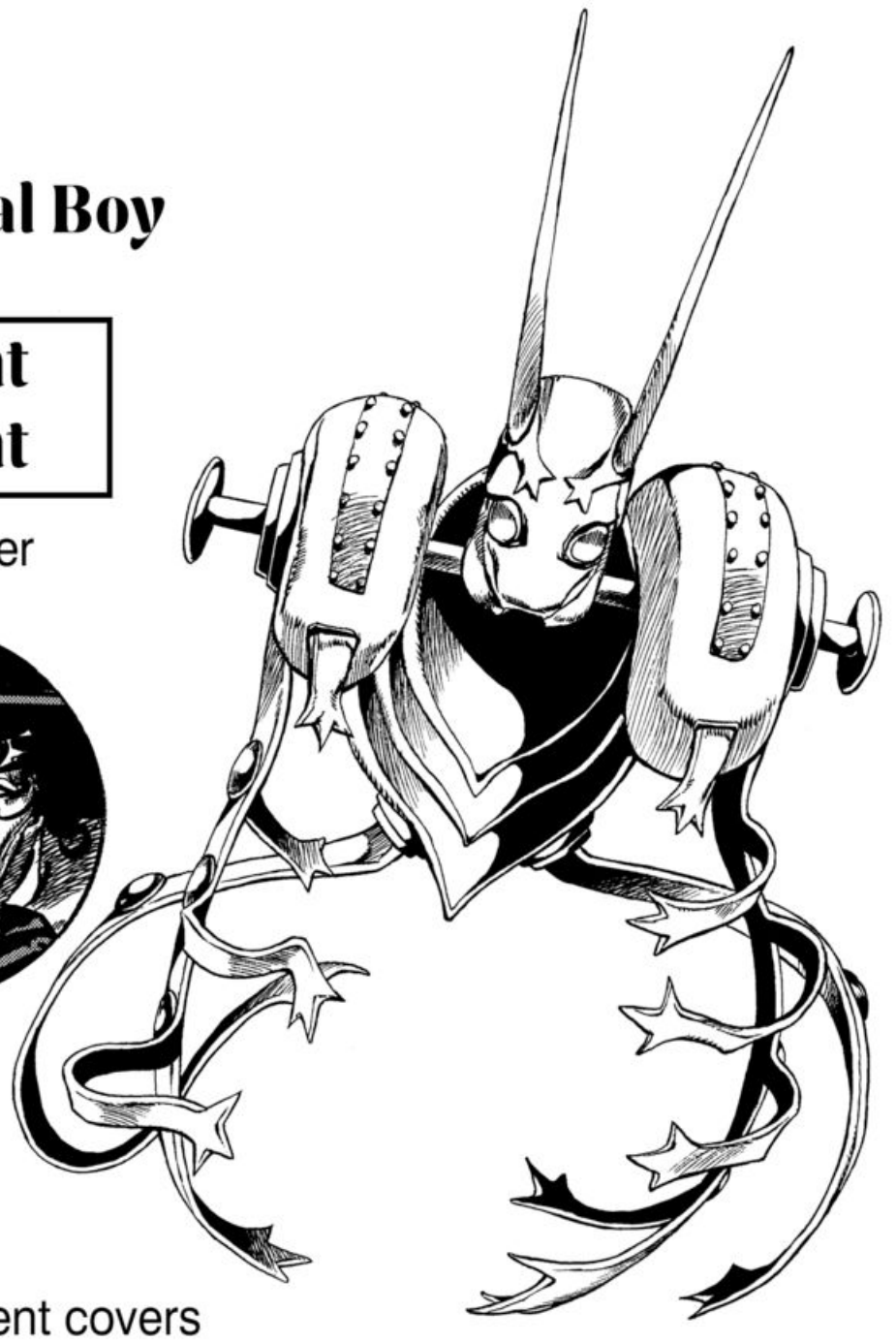
THWUMP

BANG

Stand:
Millesimal Boy

Magent
Magent

Stand user



When Magent covers
his body with his Stand, the force
from any attack made against him can be
redirected into the ground instead.

However, while he's enveloped by his Stand,
Magent is unable to move any part of his body.

CHAPTER 54:

Steel Balls Breaking: Wrecking Ball, Part 4

KRUNCH
KRUNCH
KRUNCH
KRUNCH
KRUNCH
SSSW
WSSS
IT'S WEKA-PIPO!
KRIK
KRIK
HE'S COMING FOR US !!
KRIK
KRIK
KRIK
KRIK
FLIP
FLIP
FLIP
HUFF
HUFF

WHAT WE REALLY NEED IS *THE GOLDEN SPIN.*

KRUNCH

KRUNCH

KRUNCH

KRUNCH

KRUNCH

KRUNCH

GYRO! MY NAILS ARE BACK!

I CAN FIRE OFF MY BULLETS AGAIN, BUT...

...WHAT SHOULD I DO?!

HE'S GETTING READY FOR ANOTHER THROW!!

YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW THAT?! BUT WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO?! THERE'S NOTHING HERE BUT ICE!

-DOOOOM-

KRUNCH

KRUNCH

KRUNCH

WE NEED THE GOLDEN RECTANGLE, AND WE NEED IT DIRECTLY FROM NATURE— NOT SOME COPY!

WE NEED THAT GOLDEN POWER! WITHOUT IT, HIS ***WRECKING BALLS*** WILL OVERPOWER US WITHOUT A DOUBT!

I'M GOING TO MAKE A BREAK FOR THAT ***WOLF.***

JOHNNY, JUST COVER ME.

IF THERE'S A NATURALLY OCCURRING GOLDEN RECTANGLE ANYWHERE AROUND HERE...IT'LL BE IN THAT WOLF.

AND THAT'S WHERE THE **LEGS** ARE TOO. IF NOTHING ELSE, THE **HOLY CORPSE** MUST HAVE A TEMPLATE OF THE PERFECT RATIO, RIGHT?

IF I CAN GET THERE, WE CAN WIN THIS!

HUFF HUFF

!!

ドザッ!!!

WOOSH

FWSH

THERE'S THE THROW !!

VWOOSH

HE ONLY THREW ONE BALL!

THERE'S JUST ONE!

HE DIDN'T THROW TWO THIS TIME.

VUUM

VWOOM

ゴゴゴ

VWM

ゴゴゴ

WOOOSH

ガシッ

HE CHOSE NOT TO BLOCK THE ATTACK... BUT TO GO AROUND IT!

GYRO DIDN'T AIM FOR WEKAPIPO'S BALL...

...

W-WAIT...SO NOW I HAVE TO STOP WEKAPIPO'S THROW ALL ON MY OWN?!

HE WENT FOR A DIRECT ATTACK!

VWM

10

RAA AAA AAA AAH !!

SKSH SKSH SKSH SKSH

THAT STEEL BALL! SHOOT IT DOWN! YOU HAVE TO!!

JOHNNY! YOU'VE GOT TO KNOCK IT DOWN!!

POP POP POP POP

BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG

THING IS, I STILL ONLY HAVE TEN NAIL BULLETS.

I DON'T KNOW HOW... BUT I REALLY HIT 'EM!

I... I DID IT. I KNOCKED THEM DOWN!

KWAANG

IT WAS ENOUGH TO PROTECT US FROM A SINGLE THROW...

...BUT THAT WAS JUST ONE BALL.

MY NAIL BULLETS ...

WHAT ABOUT THE **NEXT** ONE?

AAAA AAAA AAAA AAH!!

KLANG

KLANG

KLANG

KLANG

KLANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

FUSH

...ARE ALL GONE!

POP

POP

URGH!

THWUKK

THUD

CHOKK

...

GO! GYRO, GO!

AAAAH! TH...THE BALL! I BLOCKED IT!

WSH

VWOOM

ビュ

KRAKK

ドカーン

YOU...

GUH! KOFF!

WHRR

ギャル

WHRR

ギャル

WHRR

ギャル

WHRR

ギャル

YOU GOT HIM!

YOU DID IT!

N... NO...

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

TWST

TWST

TWST

TWST

TWST

TWST

TWST

TWST

TWST

TWST

TWST

TWST

URGH!

RWOP

THUD

WHRR
ギャル
WHRR
ギャル
THAT WAS THE ZEPPELI FAMILY'S SPIN! ARE YOU TELLING ME WEKAPIPO AND THE ROYAL GUARD KNOW THE SAME TECHNIQUES...?
THE STEEL BALL IN HIS LEFT HAND... THAT SPIN!
NO... NO WAY...
KAH...
KOFF!
WSH
GYRO WAS RIGHT. NOTHING SHORT OF *THE GOLDEN SPIN* IS GOING TO STOP THIS. WITHOUT A GOLDEN RECTANGLE, WE CAN'T BEAT HIM!
HE CAN HARDEN HIS SKIN TO PROTECT HIMSELF JUST LIKE GYRO!

GYRO! HE'S GOING TO THROW THE SECOND BALL!

DO
ドド
DO
ドド
DO
ドド
DO
ドド
DO
ドド
DO
ドド
DO
ドド
DO
ドド
DO
ドド

HE KNOWS HE MUST FIND A *GOLDEN RECTANGLE* NO MATTER THE COST!

...THAT ENDEAVOR IS ALSO MY GREATEST THREAT.

NEVERTHE-LESS...

THE ZEPPELIS HAVE ALWAYS ENDEAVORED TO GAIN THEIR POWER THROUGH WHAT THEY'VE LEARNED FROM NATURE. FOR THAT, THEY HAVE MY DEEPEST RESPECT.

SHF

WSSH

WHRL

キル!!

ドド

KWANG

ドドド

WHRR

キャル

WHR

キャル

WHR

キャーン!!

WHR

キャル

VWOOM

ドドドド

SKSH

シル

ドゥ
KA-
RWANG
ゴゴゴ
GOGOGO
ブク
BLUB
ブク
BLUB
ブク
BLUB
バアアア

IT WAS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION THAT YOU WOULD LOOK FOR A *GOLDEN RECTANGLE* ON THE WOLF'S CARCASS!

AND NOW I'VE DESTROYED YOUR LAST HOPE OF FINDING ONE.

I'VE BURIED EVERY LAST RECTANGLE! YOU HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO HELP YOU NOW!

HE...

HE AIMED FOR THE WOLF FIRST!

HE SENT THE WOLF UNDER THE ICE!

DOOM

DOOM

ZWISH

ZWIP

GYRO, LOOK!!

HE'S CALLING BACK HIS TWO STEEL BALLS!!

EVERYTHING ON THE LEFT IS DISAPPEARING AGAIN. AND ONLY ONE OF GYRO'S STEEL BALLS MADE IT BACK TO HIM!

NO WAY! DID A SATELLITE JUST BRUSH PAST US...?

YOU HAVE *LEFT-SIDE ATAXIA*... AND I HAVE TWO THROWS.

...

WSSSSH

SMAK

FWOOM

FWOOM

WSSSH

WSSH

WHMM

オオ

ALL THIS TIME, I...

I BELIEVED THAT AS LONG AS I FOLLOWED THE RIGHT PATH... I WOULD ALWAYS FIND THE LIGHT.

THE LIGHT SHINING THE WAY TO VICTORY. THAT'S HOW I'VE MANAGED TO COME THIS FAR. BUT NOW... IT'S GONE! HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?! I CAN'T SEE IT ANYWHERE!

WHMMMM

オオ

オオ

オオ

BUT HOW ?!

DAMN IT... THERE ISN'T ONE ANY-WHERE...

ド

DO

DO

THERE ISN'T A SINGLE GOLDEN RECTANGLE IN THIS WHOLE PLACE...

THE ROYAL GUARD... WEKA-PIPO...

ド

DO

...

AND NOW I HAVE THE UPPER HAND.

I'M ONE STEP AHEAD!

ドドド

HERE IN THE BITTER COLD... SURROUNDED BY ALL THIS ICE...WHEN I'M STILL 900 MILES FROM NEW YORK AND THERE'S SO MUCH LEFT UNFINISHED...

IT'S TOO SOON!

DID WEKAPIPO REALLY LEAVE ME WITH NO WAY OUT? ALREADY?!

I HAVEN'T ACHIEVED ANYTHING YET!

BUT WITHOUT ANY GOLDEN RECTANGLES, IS THIS WHERE MY JOURNEY ENDS...?!

VVOOOM

GYRO
!!

ゴ

VUM

ゴ

MMM

ト

WE ARE MERELY THE BALL THAT STRUCK THE NET.

SMAK

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT. THE PRO-LONGING OF LIFE. THESE ARE CONTRA-DICTING SINGULAR-ITIES.

GYRO.

THERE ARE TIMES WHERE THE BOUNDARIES BETWEEN CIVILIZED SOCIETY AND HUMAN NATURE COME INTO CONFLICT.

THE ZEPPELI FAMILY IS NOT TO INTERFERE WITH THE NOTIONS HELD BY SOCIETY. WE HAVE A ROLE TO SERVE.

WHAM

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

SO WE SHALL PRAY FOR SUCH A MIRACLE.

BUT WE ZEPPELIS ALSO BELIEVE IN MIRACLES.

PRAY THAT THE BALL WILL LAND ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE NET...

AT A TIME LIKE THIS...

SNOW...

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?!

HUH?! MY STEEL BALL...

WHAM

IT... BROKE?

WEKA-PIPO'S STEEL BALL JUST SHATTER-ED!

BUT GYRO'S IS STILL SPINNING!

KRAK

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

IT STARTED SNOWING...

THE SNOW.

WSH

THUMP

THUMP

NO... IT'S ONLY SNOWING OVER THERE.

JUST AROUND THEM...

BUT IT IS SNOWING!

IT'S...

...SNOW-ING?!

AH!

THE WOLF!

...THE WATER SPRAYED UP LIKE A MIST. EXCEPT IN THIS COLD, THE MIST INSTANTLY FROZE INTO SNOW.

WHEN WEKAPIPO ATTACKED THE ICE UNDER THE WOLF WITH HIS SATELLITES...

THE *MIST* IS FALLING BACK DOWN AS *SNOW-FLAKES!* AND WOULDN'T YOU KNOW? SNOWFLAKE CRYSTALS ARE MADE OF *REC-TANGLES!*

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

GYRO'S FINALLY GOT THE NATURAL GOLDEN RECTANGLES WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM!

GOLDEN RECTANGLES !!

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

KRAKK

ハイキック

VWOOOM

ジョオオオ

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

トドドド

...AND BROKE THE ICE?

NO... WAS IT MY OWN DOING? WAS IT BECAUSE I THREW MY SATELLITES AT THE WOLF...

YES, THE CRYSTALLINE STRUCTURE OF THE SNOW-FLAKES...

SNOW...?

TELL ME, GYRO ZEPPELI. HOW DID YOU MAKE IT SNOW?

HUFF HUFF

SNOW...

GYRO STILL HAS ANOTHER STEEL BALL IN HIS LEFT HAND!

HE... HE DID IT!

THAT'S WHY WEKAPIPO AND HIS PARTNER TARGETED THE WOLF FIRST.

IT ALL STARTED OUTSIDE THAT CASINO.

THEY KNEW THE WOLF HAD PART OF THE CORPSE. BUT IT WAS ALL JUST DUMB LUCK. SHOOTING THE WOLF... THE SNOW FALLING... ALL OF IT!

...HE MUST HAVE SEEN THE WOLF ETCHED IN THE SNOW WHILE I WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION.

WHEN I GAVE THE LAST SURVIVOR OF THOSE 11 MEN THE CORPSE'S EARS AND RIGHT ARM...

YOU LEFT ME COMPLETELY OUT OF OPTIONS.

FUNNY THING ABOUT THIS SNOW, HUH? IT WAS JUST A FLUKE.

YOU WERE GOING TO WIN.

OR BAD LUCK OF THE DRAW IN YOUR CASE.

YOU WERE CHOSEN, GYRO ZEPPELI. WHETHER BY A HIGHER POWER OR SOMETHING ELSE, I CAN'T SAY. BUT IT CHOSE YOU AS THE VICTOR.

THE *OUTCOME* IS ALL THAT MATTERS.

IT IS YOU WHO WILL CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY.

SHF

DO

DO

DO

A *MIRACLE.* YOU WERE CHOSEN, GYRO ZEPPELI.

THE FALLING SNOW WAS A MIRACLE. IT WAS MEANT TO BE.

NOT A FLUKE.

SHUNK

ガシ

ガシ

WSH

KWANG

GYRO !!

I'VE SURPASSED *YOU*, WEKAPIPO!

I'M ONE STEP AHEAD.

ARE YOU SAYING...

...

...YOU HAVE NO PLACE ELSE TO GO?

UGH !!

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN ALLOW ME TO LIVE, AND I'LL JUST LET YOU WALK AWAY?!

I CAN'T GO HOME... NOT LIKE THIS!

FINISH ME OFF!

DO IT!

AFTER HER HUSBAND DIED IN THAT DUEL, IF SHE HAD BEEN ABLE TO SEE, HER FATHER-IN-LAW WOULD HAVE HAD HER KILLED. HE'S POWERFUL ENOUGH TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN.

HE ASSUMES SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO SURVIVE LONG AS SHE IS. IT'S IN HER OWN BEST INTERESTS THAT SHE DOESN'T GET BETTER.

GYRO.

*THAT WOMAN IS ONLY ALIVE **BECAUSE** OF HER BLINDNESS.*

IF YOUR OPERATION HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL...

...AN EVEN WORSE TRAGEDY MIGHT HAVE BEFALLEN HER.

THAT'S SIMPLY HOW IT IS.

WHAT DID YOU SAY, GYRO?

WHAT WAS THAT?

JUST NOW.

...

AND BECAUSE MY OPERATION FAILED, SHE'S STILL ALIVE BACK IN OUR HOMELAND. MY FATHER HAS BEEN KEEPING HER HIDDEN SOMEWHERE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.

PROB-ABLY.

IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THAT WOMAN WAS YOUR YOUNGER SISTER.

NO, I'M SURE IT WAS HER.

WHAT ...?

...

BA-DADUM BA-DADUM

パカラッ パカラッ

BA-DADUM BA-DADUM

パカラッ パカラッ

OUR HORSES.

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

PANT PANT

PANT PANT

PANT PANT

...

LOOK, JOHNNY.

WHERE THE WOLF WAS SHOT.

THERE, BENEATH THE ICE.

HUH?

THAT WOLF...

WHIRL

IS THAT THE SAME WOLF?!

HOW IS IT RUNNING LIKE THAT?!

THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S ROUTE... I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

IT REALLY EXISTS.

FWOOO

WE FOUND IT, JOHNNY!

KRIK

KRIK

KRIK

IT'S A LOG.

WAIT A MINUTE!! THIS MEANS POCOLOCO AND THE OTHER FRONT-RUNNERS HAVEN'T FOUND IT YET!

THEY MUST STILL BE CRAWLING THEIR WAY ACROSS THE ICE!

GOT THAT RIGHT.

THIS IS THE ROUTE THE NATIVE AMERICANS MADE BY LAYING DOWN LOGS!

THE ONE FOR CROSSING THE FROZEN LAKE ON HORSE-BACK!

HEY, THESE ARE *RAFTS!* THE PELLETS HIT THE LOGS THAT WERE BURIED BENEATH THE ICE.

AND THERE'S WOOD POKING OUT FROM THE ICE.

LOOKS LIKE THOSE SHOTGUN PELLETS ONLY GRAZED THE WOLF.

RAFTS?

THIS IS WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR?!

WHAT ?!

FWEEEET

AS SOON AS WE PATCH OURSELVES UP, WE'LL HURRY ON OUT OF HERE, JOHNNY!

CALL THE HORSES!

I TRULY BELIEVE THAT'S WHAT IT WAS.

A MIRACLE.

A MIRACLE...

AS WE SPEAK, LUCY STEEL IS IN A NASTY PICKLE. YOU KNOW, MR. STEEL'S WIFE? WHEREVER SHE IS RIGHT NOW...

...SHE'S IN MORTAL DANGER.

OH, YEAH.

ONE MORE THING... I'VE GOT ANOTHER REASON FOR KEEPING YOU ALIVE, WEKAPIPO.

ANYWAY, IT REALLY SHOULD BE US DOING IT, BUT BETWEEN THE RACE AND COLLECTING THE CORPSE? WELL, WE'VE GOT OUR HANDS FULL.

YOU CAN GUARD A GIRL, RIGHT? OR DO YOU ONLY DO THAT FOR KINGS AND PRESIDENTS?

AFTER YOU'VE PLUGGED UP THOSE WOUNDS, YOU SHOULD GO HELP HER.

—DUUUN—

CHAPTER 55:

What It Takes to Be a Winner

THIS IS THE STEEL BALL RUN NORTH AMERICAN TRANS-CONTINENTAL RACE!

...OUR HORSES RUN UP TO 30 OR 40 MILES IN A SINGLE DAY.

IN THIS RACE...

IT'S THE UPPER LIMIT OF HOW FAR WE CAN GO WITHOUT INCREASING THE RISK OF ACCIDENTS AND FATIGUE.

IF OTHER RIDERS WANT TO RUN AT A FASTER PACE, WE JUST IGNORE THEM.

THAT SORT OF RECK-LESSNESS ONLY ENDS IN ONE OF TWO WAYS— DROPPING OUT OR DROPPING DEAD.

NEAR THE START OF THE RACE, TEMPERATURES IN THE ARIZONA DESERT WOULD REACH OVER 122 DEGREES BY 11 A.M.

IF WE FOUND ENOUGH SHADE UNDER A TREE OR AN OVERHANG, WE'D SET UP SIMPLE COTS TO KEEP ABOVE THE BUGS AND SLEEP AS BEST WE COULD.

THE HORSES SLEPT STANDING UP.

ONCE THE SUN STARTED TO SET, WE'D HEAD OUT AGAIN. IF THERE WAS MOONLIGHT, WE'D RIDE THROUGH THE NIGHT.

BUT WHEN IT GOT TOO DARK, WE WOULDN'T HESITATE TO MAKE CAMP. BEST TO AVOID OUR HORSES GETTING INJURED ON A ROCK OR BITTEN BY A VENOMOUS LIZARD THAT WAY.

OUR HORSES CAN LAST FOUR DAYS WITHOUT WATER.

WE SPEND HOURS DILIGENTLY BRUSHING OUR HORSES' HAIR. PARTLY BECAUSE THE BRUSHING MASSAGES THEIR MUSCLES, BUT MOSTLY TO KEEP THE HORSES FREE OF INSECTS AND DISEASE.

AND EVEN WHEN WE STOP AT NIGHT, WE STILL HAVE PLENTY TO DO.

SOMETIMES, THERE WILL EVEN BE GRAVES MARKED BY WEATHERBEATEN WOOD CROSSES AT THE SIDE OF THE ROAD. WE HAVE TO BE EXTRA CAREFUL THEN.

EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, WE'LL COME ACROSS NARROW PASSES WHERE VISIBILITY IS LIMITED.

WE EITHER GO THE LONG WAY AROUND TO AVOID POTENTIAL ENEMIES...

...OR WE STEEL OURSELVES FOR A FIGHT AND PASS THROUGH.

PLACES LIKE THAT HAVE USUALLY BEEN THE SITE OF A BANDIT MASSACRE, OR SOME OTHER MISFORTUNATE INCIDENT. IT'S THE PERFECT TERRAIN FOR AN AMBUSH.

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF THE RIVER IS BIG OR SMALL.

BUT THE MOST EXHAUSTING, NERVE-RACKING TIMES IN THIS WHOLE RACE ARE THE RIVER CROSSINGS.

ONCE WE ENTER THE WATER, WE'RE DEFENSELESS AND EXPOSED ON ALL SIDES. THERE ARE SWARMS OF GNATS AND OTHER INSECTS. AND ALL IT TAKES IS ONE BITE FROM A PIT VIPER TO KNOCK US OUT OF THE RACE FOR GOOD.

HOW MANY MORE DO WE HAVE YET TO BRAVE...?

I WONDER HOW MANY RIVERS WE'VE CROSSED IN THIS RACE SO FAR...

THE BREW IS AS DARK AND SYRUPY AS COAL TAR, AND IMBIBED WITH EQUAL PARTS SUGAR.

OF THE WHOLE JOURNEY, I HAVE TO ADMIT, THE ITALIAN COFFEE GYRO BREWS HAS BEEN A REAL HIGHLIGHT.

SOMETIMES HE COOLS IT WAY DOWN AND LETS VALKYRIE AND SLOW DANCER (OUR HORSES) HAVE A DRINK TOO.

A DOUBLE SHOT OF THAT STUFF SCATTERS MY EXHAUSTION TO THE WIND AND FILLS ME TO THE BONES WITH AN ALTOGETHER ASTONISHING AMOUNT OF ENERGY.

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW GOOD IT SMELLS. THE AROMA ALONE MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I CAN TAKE ON WHATEVER LIES AHEAD.

THAT COFFEE REALLY IS A GODSEND.

ULTIMATELY, THIS RACE IS ABOUT PROGRESSING ONWARD WHILE CONSTANTLY READING THE WEATHER AND TERRAIN. YOU ALSO HAVE TO PRESERVE THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL ENERGY OF YOURSELF AND YOUR HORSE.

THOSE WHO CAN'T PERSEVERE WILL LOSE.

AND THEN ...

WHEN WE'RE AT THE BRINK ...

SO WE EN-DURE ...

JUST WHEN WE'VE FINALLY REACHED OUR EVERY LIMIT...

TWO DAYS, THREE DAYS, IT DOESN'T MATTER. IF WE LEAVE TOO SOON, ALL THAT AWAITS US IS OUR OWN DEMISE.

IF THERE'S EVEN THE SLIGHTEST HINT OF A HEADWIND, WE FIND A CABIN OR DIG A HOLE FOR SHELTER. THEN WE START A FIRE AND WAIT AS LONG AS WE HAVE TO.

NORTH OF THE 45TH PARALLEL, WE ONLY PROCEED WHEN THE SNOW AND THE WIND ARE AT OUR BACKS OR BLOWING FROM THE SIDE.

GWOOOOOOO

...AT LONG LAST, THIS STAGE'S FINISH LINE COMES INTO VIEW.

...RIGHT AT THIS VERY MOMENT...

IT'S SO ASTOUNDINGLY COINCIDENTAL I HAVE TO WONDER IF SOMEONE SENT OUT A SIGNAL. EVEN THOUGH WE ALL HAVE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF ABILITY AND SHOULD BE MILES APART...

RUMBL

BUT YOU SEE, THAT'S WHEN THE STRANGEST THING HAPPENS. SOMETHING I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO EXPLAIN OR COMPREHEND.

RUMBL

...WE'VE BEEN CAUGHT IN A MAD DASH FOR THE FINISH!

VWOOM

ドド

AND JUST LIKE US, THEY'VE ALL BROKEN PAST THEIR LIMITS. THEY'RE USING EVERY LAST SHRED OF ENERGY THEY HAVE LEFT FOR THIS FINAL PUSH!

!!

DO ドドド DO

GLANCE

I CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT HIM... HIS RIDING TECHNIQUE IS THIRD-RATE!

DO ドドドドド DO

GYRO! THERE'S POCO-LOCO!!

AND THAT'S HIGASHIKATA ON HIS TAIL!

POCOLOCO'S COMING UP FROM BEHIND, BUT DON'T WORRY!

HEY YO...!

ドドドン

DOOM

YO YO YO YO YO YO YOOOH!

ドドド

UH, OH!

HEY OH!♬ HEY OH!♪

ARE YOU SAYIN' THE WIND IS GONNA HELP ME?

USE IT. SURRENDER YOURSELF TO THE WIND.

YOU'VE GOT NOTHING BUT GOOD LUCK. NOTHING!

GOOD LUCK'S GOT YOU WRAPPED UP LIKE A BLANKET!

YOU'VE GOT THE GODDESS OF LUCK ON YOUR SIDE!

IT'S LIKE I'VE BEEN SAYING, YEAH?

YO, THE WIND'S ALWAYS YOUR BUDDY! JUST LIKE ME!

WHAT MORE PROOF DO YOU NEED? YOU'VE GOT GOOD LUCK, JUST LIKE I TOLD YOU.

YOU'VE COME THIS FAR WITHOUT FALLING BEHIND OR RUNNING INTO TROUBLE.

EVERYONE'S ALREADY USED UP EVERYTHING THEY'VE GOT JUST TO MAKE IT THIS FAR, SO YOU KNOW THE ONLY THING THAT'S GONNA MAKE A DIFFERENCE NOW?

LUCK! THAT'S WHAT.

THIS BLIZZARD...

...GYRO AND JOHNNY FOUND THOSE RAFTS BEFORE I DID.

BUT WHEN WE WERE CROSSING THE FROZEN STRAITS...

YOU STILL CAUGHT UP WITH THEM, DIDN'TCHA?

SO WHAT?

...IS BLOWIN' JUST FOR YOU!

-WOOOSH

ドゴォ

WE NEED THE POINTS FROM THIS STAGE! WE CAN'T WIN WITHOUT THEM!

WE CAN'T LOSE HERE! NOT TO ANYBODY! THERE ARE ONLY THREE STAGES LEFT!

DOOM

SERIOUSLY? THAT'S A PRETTY BIG RANGE THERE, DON'T YOU THINK?

FINE, SPLIT THE DIFFERENCE. CALL IT THREE-EIGHTHS, THEN.

HOW FAR ARE WE FROM THE FINISH LINE, JOHNNY?

BY COUNTING OUR PACES SO FAR, I'D SAY WE'VE GOT SOMEWHERE BETWEEN A THIRD AND A HALF MILE TO GO.

!!

JOHNNY! THE BLIZZARD'S LETTING UP!

ドドド

VWOOSH

HOOF

THOSE TWO ARE GONNA HAVE TO TAKE THE LONG WAY AROUND!

I'VE GOT THE GOLDEN RECTANGLE! *TUSK!!*

ONE WILL BE ENOUGH! DON'T SLOW DOWN!

JOHNNY!

HOW MANY DO I THROW ?!

DO I THROW ONE BALL, OR TWO ?!

BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG

ORA !!

VWOOM

HERE IT GOES ...!

VWOOO

THUP

ALL RIGHT...

FWASH

VWEEEEEEM

VWEEEE

EEE

EEEEM

PWING

SHUNK

WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?!

WHA ...?

THUD

THMP

FWSH

THMP

IT'S A WIRE...

...AND USED IT TO CROSS THE CREVASSE!

I DON'T KNOW HOW... BUT THEY SHAVED DOWN THAT STEEL BALL INTO A HIGH WIRE...

THOSE...

THOSE BASTARDS !!

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!

THEY CROSSED THAT GAP LIKE IT WAS NOTHING!

DO

DO

DO

YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
DUUUN
GOAL
GOAL
ドドド

YAAH

YAAH

YAAH

YAAH

YAAH

YAAH

YAAH

YAAH

YAAH

YAAH

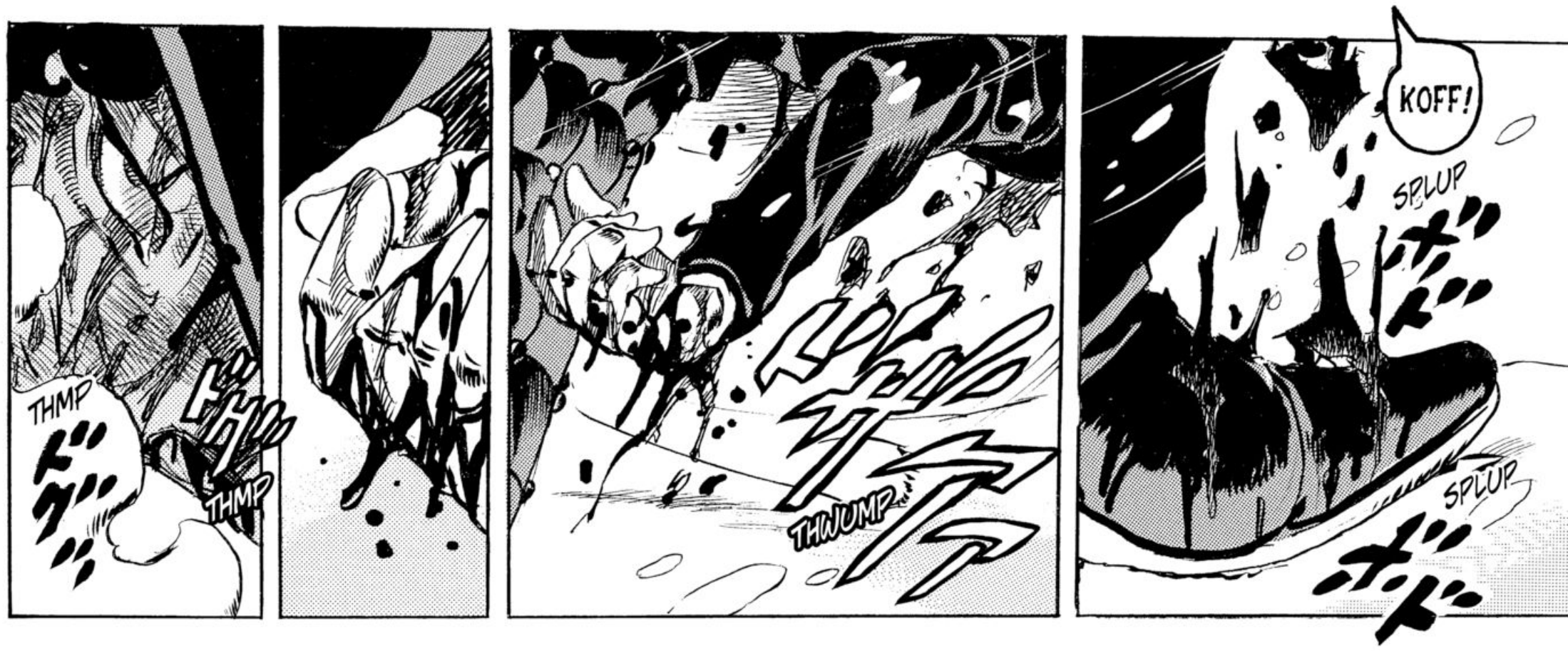
GYRO ZEPPELI FINISHES IN FIRST PLACE !!

AFTER CONQUERING THE BLIZZARD AND THE FROZEN STRAITS, GYRO ZEPPELI HAS ARRIVED AT THE FINISH LINE!!

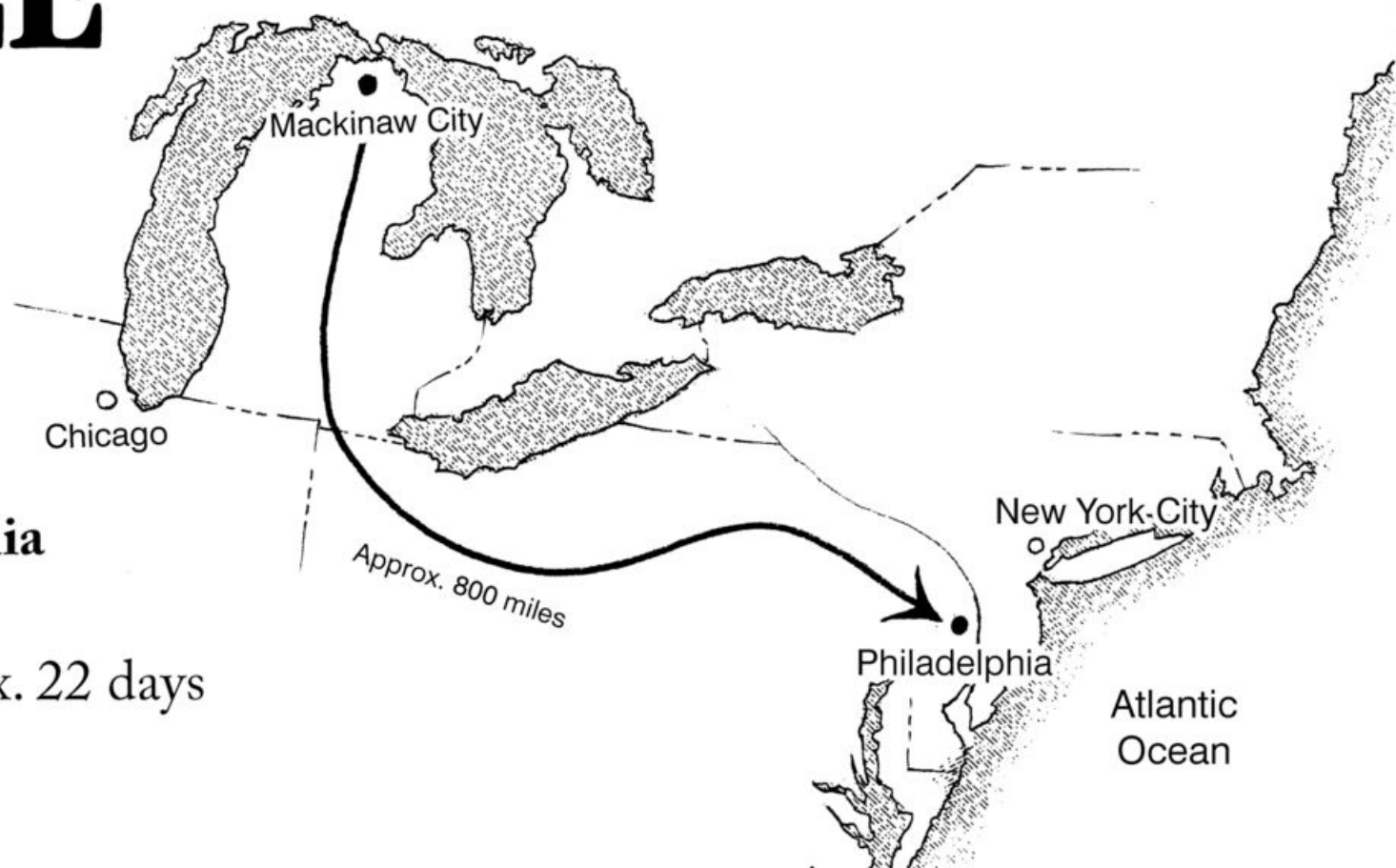
GYRO ZEPPELI! IT'S GYRO ZEPPELI, FOLKS! AND THAT'S JOHNNY JOESTAR RIGHT BEHIND HIM!!

GOAL

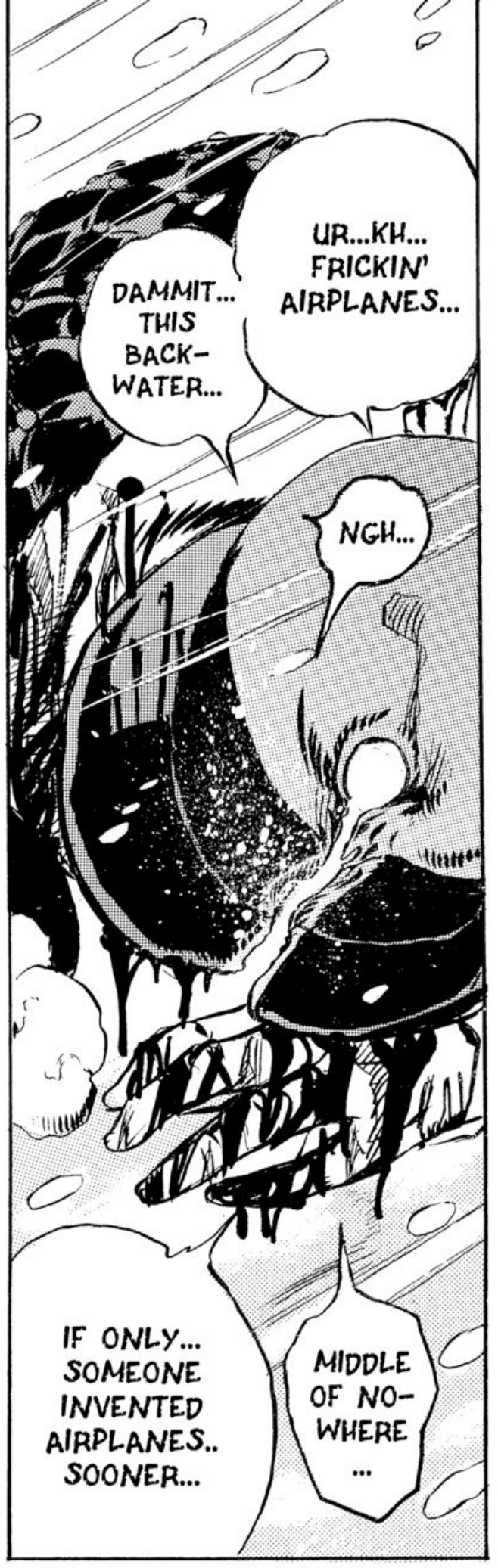
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAAAAH
GWOOOO
KRUNCH
STEEL BALL RUN
1890



THE PHILADELPHIA TRIANGLE



Seventh Stage
Mackinaw City ➡ Philadelphia
Distance: Approx. 800 miles
Estimated Duration: Approx. 22 days



SEVENTH STAGE

Steel Ball Run — To be continued...

Author's Comments

When I'm reading historical fiction or horse-racing magazines, I often come across the phrase *jinba ittai*, which refers to the shared bond between a rider and their horse. The idea is that a rider and horse can become so familiar to each other that their movements unify as one. When I'm drawing Gyro and the others on their horses, I feel like I gain the slightest glimmer of understanding what that means, even though I don't ride horses myself.

I can't give a specific example, but there are times when I've finished an illustration and felt like I've really nailed it. In those cases, it's often because the rider and the horse look like they fit together just right from an artistic perspective. It feels good. It just leads me to believe that certain people and horses are biologically (is that the word?) suited for each other.

JOJO'S BIZARRE ADVENTURE – Part 7

STEEL BALL RUN

VOLUME 7
BY HIROHIKO ARAKI

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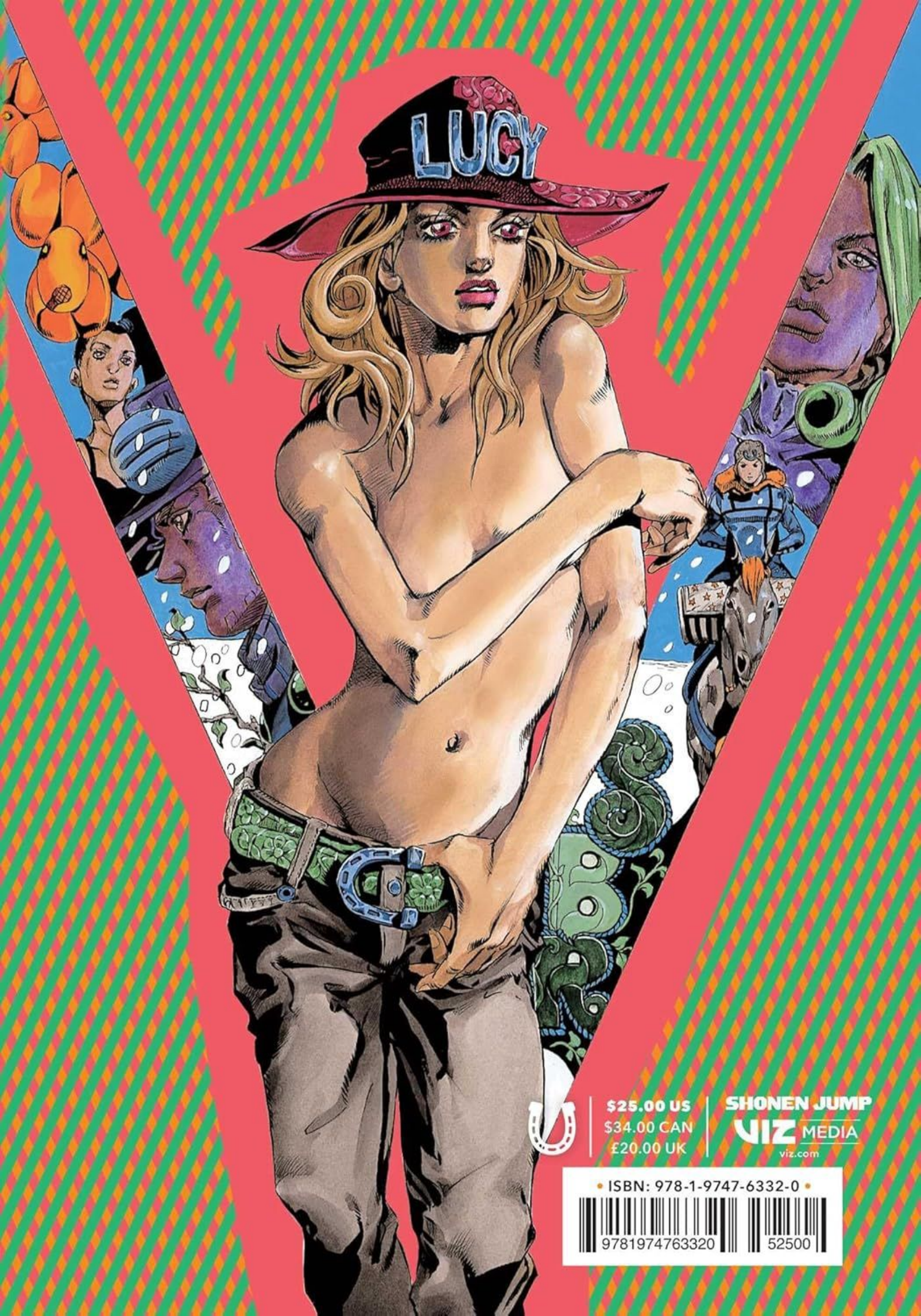
SHONEN JUMP

PARENTAL ADVISORY
JOJO'S BIZARRE ADVENTURE PART SEVEN: STEEL BALL RUN is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. This volume contains graphic violence and some mature themes.



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